



Praise, punchlines outweigh politics at Bush dedication

From left, President Barack Obama, former president George W. Bush, former president William J. Clinton former President George H.W. Bush and former president Jimmy Carter arrive for the dedication of the George W. Bush Presidential Center Thursday, April 25, 2013, in Dallas.

(AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

PETER BAKER

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UNIVERSITY PARK, Texas — President Barack Obama joined all of his living predecessors Thursday to pay tribute to George W. Bush as the arguments of the past decade gave way, at least for a day, to a more generous appraisal of a leader who responded to great challenges with determination and grit. The current and former presidents gathered to dedicate the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum here on the campus of Southern Methodist University. Joining

them was a collection of current and former foreign leaders and lawmakers as well as hundreds of former Bush administration officials and thousands of his admirers. Obama praised Bush for his resolve after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, his compassion in fighting AIDS in Africa and his commitment to overhauling the immigration system. Treading lightly over their disagreements over Iraq and other issues, the president said his predecessor had fought for what he thought was best for his country. "We know President Bush

the man," Obama told the crowd in front of the brick-and-limestone center on a bright, sunny Texas day. "To know the man is to like the man. Because he's comfortable in his own skin. He knows who he is. He doesn't put on any pretenses. He takes his job seriously but he doesn't take himself too seriously. He is a good man." It was an emotional moment for Bush, coming four years after leaving office with historic low poll numbers. Bathed in the admiration of his former team and his presidential peers, he recalled the goals that guid-

ed his time in office and choked up as he finished his speech. Sitting down to applause, he smiled and wiped tears from his eyes. "In democracy, the purpose of public office is not to fulfill personal ambition," he said. "Elected officials must serve a cause greater than themselves. The political winds blow left and right, polls rise and fall, supporters come and go. But in the end leaders are defined by the convictions that they hold." Bush, 66, acknowledged the controversies of his time, noting that freedom

means the freedom to disagree. "It's fair to say I created plenty of opportunities to exercise that right," he said with a smile. But he added that visitors to his library will see how he saw it. "They're going to find out that we stayed true to our convictions," he said, "that we expanded freedom at home by raising standards in schools and lowering taxes for everybody, that we liberated nations from dictatorship and freed people from AIDS."

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US man detained in Venezuelan post-vote crackdown



This undated family photo released Thursday, April 25, 2013, shows Timothy Tracy inside of a vehicle in Venezuela. The 35-year-old filmmaker from California was arrested Wednesday, by Venezuelan authorities who are accusing him of fomenting post election violence on behalf of the U.S. government.

(AP Photo/Family courtesy photo)

FRANK BAJAK
M. WEISSENSTEIN
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A 35-year-old filmmaker from California has been arrested by Venezuelan

authorities who are accusing him of fomenting post-election violence on behalf of the U.S. government. President Nicolas Maduro said Thursday that he personally ordered Timothy

Tracy's arrest on suspicion of "creating violence in the cities of this country." Venezuela's interior minister said Tracy was working for U.S. intelligence, paying right-wing youth groups to

hold violent demonstrations in order to destabilize the country after Maduro's narrow election win last week.

Friends and family of Tracy told The Associated Press that he had been in Venezuela since last year making a documentary about the country, which is bitterly divided politically as the socialist heirs of the late President Hugo Chavez struggle to maintain control of a country beset by economic and political turmoil. The Georgetown University English graduate was a story consultant on the 2009 documentary "American Harmony," about competitive barbershop quartet singing, and produced the recent Discovery Channel program "Under Siege," about terrorism and smuggling across the U.S./Canada border.

"They don't have CIA in custody. They don't have a journalist in custody. They have a kid with a camera," said Aengus James, a friend and associate of Tracy's in Hollywood, California, and director of "American Harmony." "He does not really

know what he's doing." James described Tracy as "fearless" but also somewhat quixotic.

"This whole thing came about with him at a party in South Florida," he said. "He met this cute girl who says, 'If you really are a documentary filmmaker you'll come tell the story of what is happening in Venezuela,' and if you say something like that to Tim he goes, whether or not he knows a single person there or knows anything about the political situation or the consequences."

Tracy had been detained at least twice before by Venezuela's SEBIN intelligence police. The last time was five days before the April 14 presidential election when he was taking video of a pro-government rally in the port city of Puerto Cabello, said an associate who spoke on condition of anonymity because he did not want to endanger people inside Venezuela.

The U.S. Embassy in Caracas declined immediate comment, citing citizen privacy. □

Coast Guard: Spark from cleaning caused explosion

MELISSA GABRIEL
Associated Press
MOBILE, Alabama (AP) — Firefighters on Thursday extinguished a huge blaze that erupted hours earlier when two fuel barges exploded, leaving three people with critical burns and forcing the evacuation of crew from a nearby cruise ship. The cause of the explosions remained under investigation, but investigators believe it was likely from a spark caused by a crew cleaning the barges, Coast Guard Lt. Mike Clausen said. Firefighters from Mobile and Coast Guard officials responded to the pair of Wednesday night explosions involving the gas barges in the Mobile River east of downtown. More explosions followed over the next few hours. Authorities say three people were brought to the

University of South Alabama Medical Center for burn-related injuries. The three remained in critical condition Thursday morning, hospital spokesman Bob Lowry said.

Across the river, workers were evacuated from the Carnival Triumph, the cruise ship that became disabled in the Gulf of Mexico in February before it was towed to Mobile's port for repairs.

Alan Waugh, who lives at the Fort Conde Inn across the river from the scene, saw the blasts and said throngs of Carnival employees and others were clustered on streets leading toward the river as authorities evacuated the shipyard. A cruise spokesman said none of its workers were injured and there was no damage to the ship.

"It literally sounded like

bombs going off around. The sky just lit up in orange and red," he said, "We could smell something in

the air, we didn't know if it was gas or smoke." Waugh said he could feel the heat from the explosion and

when he came back inside, his partner noticed he had what appeared to be black soot on his face. □



A massive explosion on one of the two barges is seen still ablaze in the Mobile River in Mobile, Ala., on Thursday, April 25, 2013.

(AP Photo John David Mercer)

Obama consoles families, survivors of Texas blast

**DANNY ROBBINS
JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press**

WACO, Texas (AP) — President Barack Obama consoled a rural Texas community rocked by a deadly fertilizer plant explosion, telling mourners Thursday they are not alone in their grief and they will have America's support to rebuild from the devastation. "This small town's family is bigger now," Obama said during a memorial service at Baylor University for victims of last week's explosion in nearby West, Texas, that killed 14 and injured 200. Nearly 10,000 gathered to remember the first responders killed in the blast, a crowd more than triple the size of West's entire population of 2,700. "To the families, the neighbors grappling with unbearable loss, we are here to say you are not alone. You are not forgotten," Obama said to applause. "We may not all live here in Texas, but we're neighbors too. We're Americans too, and we stand with you." The April 17 explosion left a crater more than 90 feet (27 meters) wide and dam-

aged dozens of buildings, displacing many residents from their homes. The Insurance Council of Texas esti-

Ten of those killed were first responders who sped out to the nighttime blaze. The memorial service hon-

got to the scene, you forgot fear and you fought that blaze as hard as you could, knowing the dan-

opening of George W. Bush's presidential library at Southern Methodist University. Bush sent his sympathies in a statement read at the service by Baylor President Ken Starr, the former special prosecutor who investigated President Bill Clinton.

From his helicopter, Obama saw what looked like a massive construction site, with cranes and dozens of vehicles dotting a wide swath of brown earth. Piles of burnt rubble and scorched earth were clearly visible. Obama could also see the school field first responders used as a staging ground.

Obama has made such a trip countless times before, touring damage and consoling survivors of other disasters including Hurricane Irene, Hurricane Sandy and a string of mass shootings. It was just one week ago that Obama was in Boston, offering solace to America at a memorial for victims of the Boston Marathon bombing, another larger-than-life tragedy that compounded the nation's grief the same week as the explosion in West. □



President Barack Obama attends the memorial for firefighters killed at the fertilizer plant explosion in West, Texas, at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, Thursday, April 25, 2013.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

mates it caused more than \$100 million in damage, and crews were sifting the rubble to search for clues to what caused the explosion or whether foul play was involved.

The blast came about 20 minutes after a fire was reported at West Fertilizer.

ored those first responders and two civilians who tried to fight the fire and were posthumously named volunteer first responders.

Obama spoke for 16 minutes, quoting scripture and lauding the men whose flag-draped coffins laid before him. "When you

ger," Obama said.

Both the president and first lady Michelle Obama wiped away a tear as bagpipes sounded "Amazing Grace."

Obama added his appearance at the memorial service onto a long-planned trip to Texas for Thursday's

Crossing a red line:

U.S. says Syria used poison

**BRADLEY KLAPPER
JULIE PACE
Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House declared Thursday that U.S. intelligence indicates Syrian President Bashar Assad has twice used deadly chemical weapons in his country's fierce civil war, a provocative action that would cross President Barack Obama's "red line" for a significant military response. But the administration said the revelation won't immediately change its stance on intervening. The information, which has been known to the administration and some members of Congress for weeks, isn't solid enough to warrant quick U.S. involvement in the 2-year-old conflict,

the White House said. Officials said the assessments were made with "varying degrees of confidence" given the difficulty of information gathering in Syria, though there appeared to be little question within the intelligence community.

As recently as Tuesday, when an Israeli general added to the growing chorus that Assad had used chemical weapons, White House spokesman Jay Carney said the administration was continuing to monitor and investigate but had "not come to the conclusion that there has been that use." The Syrian civil war has persisted, with an estimated 70,000 dead. Obama has so far resisted pressure, both from Congress and from within his

own administration, to arm the Syrian rebels or get involved militarily. He has, however, declared the use of chemical weapons a "game changer" that would have "enormous consequences."

The White House disclosed the new intelligence Thursday in letters to two senators, but had Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announce it to reporters traveling with him in the United Arab Emirates. The letters were sent in response to questions from senators of both parties who are pressing for more U.S. involvement, and it marked the first time the administration has publicly disclosed evidence of chemical weapons use. "Our intelligence community does assess,



U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel speaks with reporters after reading a statement on chemical weapon use in Syria during a press conference in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates on Thursday, April 25, 2013.

(AP Photo/Jim Watson)

with varying degrees of confidence, that the Syrian regime has used chemical weapons on a small scale in Syria, specifically, the chemical agent sarin," the White House said in the letters, which were signed by Obama's legislative director, Miguel Rodriguez. He went on to write that "given the stakes involved,"

the U.S. was still seeking "credible and corroborated facts" before deciding how to proceed.

Two congressional officials said the administration has known for weeks — and has briefed Congress — that the CIA and other intelligence agencies have evidence of two incidents of sarin gas use. □

Praise, punchlines outweigh politics at Bush dedication

Continued from front

And that when freedom came under attack, we made the tough decisions required to keep the American people safe."

Laura Bush opened the ceremony by honoring her husband as a caring man who comforted a nation during times of terrorism and war as president and has continued to help the afflicted by rehabilitating a health clinic in Africa as a former president.

"I remember how steadfast and steady he was for eight years," she said, adding, "My George is a man who when someone needs a hand offers them their arms."

In addition to Obama, former Presidents Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush spoke at the program.

The event was a public re-emergence of sorts for the elder Bush, 88, who spent

weeks in a hospital last winter and at one point appeared close to death.

and engaged, according to people who have seen him lately.



From left, former president George H.W. Bush, former president George W. Bush, and former first lady Barbara Bush laugh during former president William J. Clinton's speech during the dedication of the George W. Bush Presidential Center Thursday, April 25, 2013, in Dallas.

(AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

Now in a wheelchair because of a form of Parkinson's disease in his legs, Bush, the 41st president, has recovered considerably and remains lively

Bush said only a few words thanking the crowd and those who had made the library. "It's very special for Barbara and me," he said, wrapping up by saying,

"God bless America, and thank you very much."

The crowd seemed to want more, but when he just waved, they stood in ovation. In an emotional moment, the former president with the help of his son on one side and Barbara Bush on the other managed to lift himself to his feet for a few moments in acknowledgment.

Clinton, who has become so close to the Bushes that he is often described as a virtual member of the family, offered warm praise for Bush as a president and quasi-brother, mentioning as Obama did, the AIDS program and immigration fight.

He lightly touched on the purpose of any presidential library.

"I told President Obama this was the latest, grandest example of the eternal struggle of former presidents to rewrite history," Clinton said with a smile.

He recalled how he and Bush used to talk while his successor was in office, then referring to the library behind him joked, "Dear God, I hope there's no record of those conversations in this vast and beautiful building."

Hillary Rodham Clinton, sitting on stage with the other presidents and first ladies, laughed robustly.

Clinton and Bush hugged after his talk.

Carter, who was a fierce critic of Bush and the war in Iraq during his presidency, praised not only the AIDS program but also recalled how Bush had helped stop more than two decades of war in Sudan.

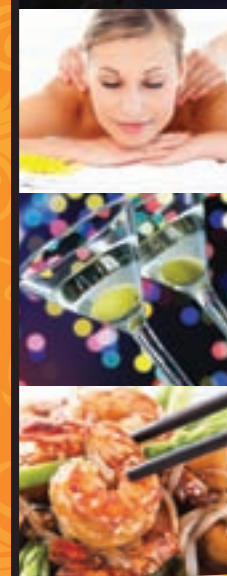
"George W. Bush is responsible for that," Carter said. Turning to Bush, Carter added, "I'm filled with admiration for you and deep gratitude for you about the great contributions you've made to the most needy people on earth." □

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Police: Boston suspects planned to attack New York



News headlines circle a building in New York's Times Square, Thursday, April 25, 2013. The Boston Marathon bombing suspects had planned to blow up their remaining explosives in New York's Times Square, officials said Thursday. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

COLLEEN LONG
JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The Boston Marathon bombers were headed for New York's Times Square to blow up the rest of their explosives, authorities said Thursday, in what they portrayed as a chilling, spur-of-the-moment scheme that fell apart when the brothers realized the car they had hijacked was low

on gas.

New York City Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said Dzhokhar Tsarnaev told interrogators from his hospital bed that he and his older brother had decided spontaneously last Thursday night to drive to New York and launch an attack. In their stolen SUV they had five pipe bombs and a pressure-cooker explosive like the ones that blew up at the marathon,

Kelly said.

"New York City was next on their list of targets," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said. The plan fell apart when the Tsarnaev brothers got into a shootout just outside Boston that left Tamerlan Tsarnaev dead, Kelly said. "We don't know if we would have been able to stop the terrorists had they arrived here from Boston," New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg said.

Parents: Boston suspects are innocent

DAVID M. HERSZENHORN
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MAKHACHKALA, Russia

— The parents of the two brothers accused in the bomb attack that killed three people and wounded more than 260 near the finish line of the Boston Marathon insisted Thursday that their sons were innocent and had no connection to radical Islam.

In an outpouring of anguish and anger at a news conference here in the capital of Dagestan, the brothers' father, Anzor Tsarnaev, and mother, Zubeidat Tsarnaeva, also made accusations of a conspiracy in which the U.S. authorities murdered their older son, Tamerlan, after seizing him. Officials in the United States have said that Tamerlan was shot during a standoff with police and was run over by a car driven by his younger brother as he escaped from the scene. The

younger brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, was captured and has been charged with using a weapon of mass destruction. He is recovering in a Boston hospital and may face the death penalty if convicted. Officials have also released video showing the brothers near the site of the marathon bombing.

Despite this evidence, and after two days of questioning by agents of the FBI here, Tsarnaeva said she would not accept that her sons were guilty.

"No I don't — and I won't," she snapped at the news conference. "Never!"

During a nearly hourlong emotional Q-and-A session, the parents addressed many of the questions that investigators and the U.S. public have been asking in the anxious, unsettled days after the bombing, insisting their sons were not religious radicals or connected to

any terrorist organization.

Their answers were often a mixture of denial and conspiracy theory. In one dramatic moment, Tsarnaeva said FBI agents who came to the family's home in Massachusetts to question Tamerlan about his religious views, had asked her if she worried that he might commit an act of terrorism. "Actually, they told me, don't you think that Tamerlan is being a little bit, you know, like extreme about religion?" she said.

"Do you see any aggression in Tamerlan?" she said, quoting the agents. "No, I did not. I did not. I really did not see any reason to worry." They said they regretted having lived in the United States, but that they wanted to travel back soon to see Dzhokhar, though they expressed fear that they would not be allowed to see him until he was put in prison. □

"We're just thankful that we didn't have to find out that answer."

Dzhokhar, 19, is charged with carrying out the Boston Marathon bombing that killed three people and wounded more than 260, and he could get the death penalty.

Christina Dilorio-Sterling, a spokeswoman for U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz in Boston, would not comment on whether authorities plan to add charges based on alleged plan to attack New York.

Investigators and lawmakers briefed by the FBI have said that the Tsarnaev brothers — ethnic Chechens from Russia who had lived in the U.S. for about a decade — were motivated by anger over the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghani-

stan. Based on the younger man's interrogation and other evidence, authorities have said it appears so far that the Muslim brothers were radicalized via jihadi material on the Internet instead of by any direct contact with terrorist organizations, but they have said it is still an open question.

Dzhokhar was interrogated in his hospital room over a period of 16 hours without being read his constitutional rights. He immediately stopped talking after a magistrate judge and a representative from the U.S. Attorney's office entered the room and advised him of his rights to keep quiet and seek a lawyer, according to a U.S. law enforcement official and others briefed on the interrogation. □

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Official: Missing Brown student confirmed dead

JESS BIDGOOD

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The family of Sunil Tripathi, a Brown University student who disappeared last month – and was briefly misidentified as a suspect in the Boston Marathon bombings – confirmed Thursday that his body had been found by the authorities near Providence, R.I.

“On April 23, our beloved Sunil was discovered in the waters off India Point Park in Providence,” his family wrote in a statement.

Tripathi, 22, was taking a leave of absence from Brown when he left his apartment near campus on March 16, leaving his wallet, identification and bicycle at home. He did not return, setting off a round-the-clock search by his relatives, who temporarily moved to Providence and worked with the police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to try to find him.

“He’s very quiet, he’s very private, he’s very intellectual,” Tripathi’s mother, Judy, said in an interview last week. “He admitted to some depression, but he said that he could figure it out, he could handle it.”

His disappearance mystified the authorities and his family, who said they had been in daily communication with him before he left. Last Thursday, shortly after the FBI released grainy surveillance photographs of the two men they believed were the Boston bombers, some Internet users began to speculate that Tripathi might be one of them. They began posting messages suggesting as much on the Facebook page the family used to raise awareness about their search for Tripathi. As the police pursued the two suspects on a fiery chase through the Boston area, the rumor spread, leading news vans to stake out the Tripathis’ family home in Bryn Mawr, Pa., and reporters to make dozens of calls to the Tripathi family’s cellphones. □

Man named in ricin case goes into hiding

HOLBROOK MOHR

Associated Press

SALTILLO, Mississippi (AP)

— A man whose home was searched in the investigation of poisoned letters sent to the president and others has apparently gone into hiding, but his attorney said he is cooperating and the FBI knows how to get in touch with him.

Everett Dutschke, 45, had his home and former business searched in connection with the letters, which allegedly contained ricin. They were sent last week to President Barack Obama, Sen. Roger Wicker of Mississippi and earlier to an 80-year-old Mississippi judge named Sadie Holand.

Charges were initially filed against a celebrity impersonator but then dropped. Attention then turned to Dutschke, who has ties to the former suspect and the judge and senator.

On Thursday, investigators looked through a different home about 20 miles (32 kilometers) away and a plane circled above for much of the day.

A friend of Dutschke’s told The Associated Press that both he and Dutschke stayed at the home for a while Wednesday before slipping out through the woods to rendezvous with someone who drove Dutschke elsewhere. He

said Dutschke was just trying to escape the news media.

Dutschke has not been arrested or charged in the letters case. The FBI has said nothing about the building searches or Thurs-

told him Dutschke had been under surveillance, but authorities weren’t sure where he had gone.

It was yet another strange turn in the case that began when charges were filed against 45-year-old enter-

McCoy, has said she does not know what new information led the FBI to abandon the charges but that the agency acted in good faith and worked from the information it had at the time.



Everett Dutschke, right, confers with a federal agent near the site of a martial arts studio he once operated in Tupelo, Miss.

(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

day’s developments. Dutschke’s lawyer, Lori Nail Basham, said there is no arrest warrant for her client, who continues to cooperate with investigators. Earlier Thursday, Sheriff Chris Dickinson said agents

tainer Paul Kevin Curtis, whose lawyers now say he was set up for the crime. Charges against Curtis were dropped Tuesday after authorities said they developed new information. His attorney, Christi

Dutschke and Curtis were acquainted. Curtis said they had talked about possibly publishing a book on an alleged conspiracy to sell body parts on a black market. But he claimed they later had a feud. □

US: Chinese woman charged in baby death

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A Chinese immigrant accused of killing her unborn infant by eating rat poison while pregnant says her life has been difficult since she was charged but that she stays busy to avoid dwelling on her upcoming murder trial.

“I work all the time. I work. It helps,” Bei Bei Shuai told Indianapolis television station WRTV during a rare interview for a story Thursday. “I don’t have time to think about it.

I work seven days a week.” Shuai was eight months pregnant when she ate rat poison in December 2010 in a suicide attempt after

her boyfriend broke up with her. Doctors called authorities when the baby died three days after being delivered prematurely.

Prosecutors charged Shuai with murder and feticide in March 2011. She was released on bond last May after more than a year in jail following an Indiana Court of Appeals ruling in her favor.

“My life has been difficult. I was scared,” said Shuai, a 36-year-old Shanghai native. “It has been really, really difficult.”

The case has attracted attention from medical groups and reproductive rights advocates around

the globe who claim it could set a precedent by which pregnant women could be prosecuted for smoking or other behavior that authorities deem dangerous to their unborn child.

Dozens of organizations have filed friend-of-the-court briefs on Shuai’s behalf.

Attorney Linda Pence says she is disappointed that prosecutors are still pursuing murder charges against Shuai.

A county judge ruled in January that testimony from a pathologist who did the original autopsy could not be admitted because

the pathologist didn’t consider other possible causes for the brain bleeding that caused the baby’s death, including a drug that Shuai received while she was in the hospital.

“As of now, they have not provided any testimony from an expert that can testify that the rat poison caused the death of the fetus, which is alarming to me,” Pence said. “When you charge someone with murder, the most heinous crime on the books, you would have competent good evidence before you made those charges.”

Jury selection in Shuai’s trial is scheduled for Aug. 26. □

House panel says it will offer series of immigration bills

EMMARIE HUETTEMAN
ASHLEY PARKER

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WASHINGTON — The House Judiciary Committee announced Thursday that it would introduce a series of bills beginning this week to overhaul the nation's im-

first of several proposals in the coming weeks would create a temporary guest worker program for agriculture and require employers to use an electronic verification system to check the immigration status of employees.

D-N.Y., both members of the bipartisan group of eight senators who wrote the legislation, said Thursday that they were aiming to win 70 votes in the Senate and hoped to gain the backing of a majority of senators in both parties

most of May.

"There's a different mood in the Senate," Schumer said. "I hope that our immigration bill sets the model for coming bipartisan agreements."

Goodlatte made it clear that his committee's intention was to jump-start the debate in the House. The bipartisan House group studying immigration, which has been meeting in secret on and off for about four years, has yet to offer its own proposal.

"At this point in time, we think we can help move the process forward by beginning to examine the legislative details of various ideas that members have brought forward," he said. Goodlatte's announcement does create a sense of urgency among the House group, particularly its Democratic members, to introduce broad legislation. Many Republicans in the House prefer a piecemeal approach, similar to what Goodlatte is proposing, though Democrats fear that this approach would make it tough for them to win support for a path to legalization — a crucial part of any immigration overhaul, they say. Goodlatte emphasized that his committee had not

decided what should appear in the final legislation, and he did not dismiss the possibility of offering some kind of legal status. He said the committee would examine the Senate proposal and any proposal presented by the House group.

"They have been working on this process for a long, long time," he said, "and we are very hopeful that they can reach a bipartisan agreement on what will be done to address these three major aspects of immigration reform: legal immigration reform, enforcement and what to do about the legal status of the 11 million or more people who are not here lawfully."

House Democrats remain hopeful that a broad immigration bill will ultimately emerge.

"This group has worked long enough that it will work toward producing a good compromise on a total fix to our immigration system — not a partial fix, not a piecemeal fix, but a total fix," Rep. Xavier Becerra, D-Calif. and a member of the House bipartisan group, said Wednesday.

The bipartisan group hopes to introduce its legislation by the end of May, aides said. □



People demonstrate outside the Hart Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill in Washington, April 25, 2013. Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), who are leading a push for bipartisan immigration legislation, said Thursday that they were aiming to win 70 votes in the Senate and hoped to gain the backing of a majority of senators in both parties.

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

migration system, a move designed to keep the committee in the middle of the debate over the issue, which is now percolating on Capitol Hill, and to press a bipartisan group in the House that has been working in private on its own broad legislation.

Rep. Robert W. Goodlatte, R-Va. and the chairman of the committee, said the

The announcement came after the Senate Judiciary Committee this week held the last of three hearings on broad immigration legislation that would tighten border security and offer an eventual path to citizenship for 11 million immigrants already in the country.

Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Charles E. Schumer,

— a prospect McCain described as "very doable." Sen. Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt. and the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, announced Thursday that his committee would begin its markup of the immigration bill on May 9, shortly after Congress returns from its recess. Consideration of the legislation is expected to last through



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Britain dodges 'triple dip' recession; economy grew in Q1

DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Britain has given the slip to the Triple Dip.

The U.K. dodged a third recession after official figures showed the economy grew 0.3 percent in the first quarter compared with the previous three months — a better-than-expected result that offered a bit of breathing space to a government facing criticism for its tough austerity policies. The figure released Thursday by the Office for National Statistics was above analyst forecasts for 0.1 percent growth and allowed the country to avoid a so-called "Triple Dip" — a third recession since the 2008 economic crisis.

The pound jumped higher in currency markets on expectations that the figures will dissuade the Bank of England from increasing its monetary stimulus program. The pound was up 1.1 percent against the dollar, at \$1.5443.

"The likelihood of policy action by the Bank of England has fallen significantly

with this better than expected outcome," said Chris Williamson, an analyst with Markit.

ing and growth. Williamson noted, however, that Thursday's figures hardly indicate a strong re-



Britain's Chancellor George Osborne and Xavier Rolet, CEO of London Stock Exchange, left, visit Unruly Media in London, Thursday April 25, 2013. Britain has given the slip to the Triple Dip. The UK dodged a third recession after official figures showed the economy grew 0.3 percent in the first quarter compared with the previous three months.

(AP Photo/Chris Harris)

In its stimulus program, the Bank of England increases the amount of money in the U.K. financial system, in the hopes of spurring lend-

bound has begun. "The fact that the economy has more or less stagnated over the past 18 months suggests that the

return to growth will do little to alleviate pressure on the government and the Bank of England to find ways to ensure the latest upturn turns into a sustainable and robust recovery, and that the economy does not falter once again."

A recession is typically defined as two quarters of economic contraction. The economy shrank in the fourth quarter of 2012. The figures show the economy grew at an annualized rate of about 1.2 percent.

Observers had feared that news of another recession would scare consumers, feeding into a vicious cycle of cutting back on spending that has the economy flat-lining.

Britain's government desperately wanted a robust number to justify its austerity policies, and seemed at least pleasantly surprised.

"Today's figures are an encouraging sign the economy is healing. Despite a tough economic backdrop, we are making progress," Treasury chief George Osborne said. "We all know there are no

easy answers to problems built up over many years, and I can't promise the road ahead will always be smooth, but by continuing to confront our problems head on, Britain is recovering and we are building an economy fit for the future." The positive result — however small — can only offer a boost to the confidence of small and medium sized business, seen by many observers see as critical to reviving the moribund economy.

Stephen Pegge, a director for SME markets at Lloyds Banking Group, which makes loans to small and medium-sized businesses, said that the number of startups is rising, which is consistent with growth.

"Many businesses will feel more upbeat about the future as a result of today's figures," he said in an email. "My hope is that this optimism will stick and that businesses will be encouraged to borrow and invest for growth. Investment after all, is the only way to ensure growth is sustained."

□



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Korea tensions:

South demands talks with North on factory

HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— After weeks of threatening rhetoric from the North, South Korea on Thursday promised its own unspecified "grave measures" if Pyongyang rejects talks on a jointly run factory park shuttered for nearly a month.

The park in the North Korean border town of Kaesong is the most significant casualty so far in the recent deterioration of relations between the Koreas. Pyongyang barred South Korean managers and cargo from entering North Korea earlier this month, then recalled the 53,000 North Koreans who worked on the assembly lines.

South Korea's Unification Ministry on Thursday proposed working-level talks on Kaesong and urged the North to respond by noon Friday, warning that Seoul will take "grave measures" if Pyongyang rebuffs the call for dialogue.

In a televised news conference, spokesman Kim Hyung-suk refused to say what those measures might be. Some analysts said Seoul would likely pull out the roughly 175 South Korean managers who remain at the complex.

Kim said South Korea set a Friday deadline because the remaining workers at Kaesong are running short of food and medicine. He said the companies there are suffering economically

because of the shutdown. To resolve deadlocked operations at Kaesong, Kim said North Korea should first allow some South Koreans to cross the border to hand over food and medicine to the managers.

North Korea didn't immediately respond Thursday, according to the Unification Ministry. North Korean state television showed fighter jets screeching across the sky and goose-stepping soldiers parading in front of leader Kim Jong Un at a ceremony in Pyongyang marking the 81st anniversary of the founding of the military. Tens of thousands of people visited Pyongyang's Kumsusan Palace to celebrate the anniversary. □

Israel military shoots down drone, Hezbollah suspected

BY DIAA HADID

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel shot down a drone Thursday as it approached its northern coast from neighboring Lebanon, raising suspicions that the Hezbollah militant group was behind

the infiltration attempt.

Hezbollah denied involvement, but the incident was likely to heighten Israeli concerns that the Shiite militant group is trying to take advantage of the unrest in neighboring Syria to strengthen its capabilities.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who was in a helicopter in northern Israel at the time of the incident, said he viewed it with "utmost gravity."

Israeli military spokesman Lt. Col. Peter Lerner said the unmanned aircraft was

detected as it was flying over Lebanon and tracked as it approached Israeli airspace.

He said the military waited for the aircraft to enter Israeli airspace, confirmed it was "enemy," and then an F-16 warplane shot it down, smashing its wreckage into the sea about five miles (eight kilometers) off the northern port of Haifa. Lerner said Israeli naval forces were searching for the remains of the aircraft.

He said it still was not clear who sent the drone, noting it flew over Lebanese airspace, but that it could have originated from somewhere else.

Other military officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not permitted to talk to the media, said they believed it was an Iranian-manufactured aircraft sent by Hezbollah. The Lebanese group sent a drone

into Israeli airspace last October that Israel also shot down.

Officials said Netanyahu was informed of the unfolding incident as he was flying north for a cultural event with members of the country's Druse minority.

They said his helicopter briefly landed while the drone was intercepted then continued on its way. "On my way here in the helicopter, I was told that there is an infiltration attempt of a drone inside the skies of Israel,"

Netanyahu said in the northern Arab-Israeli town of Daliyat al-Karmel. "We will continue to do everything necessary to safeguard the security of Israel's citizens."

Despite the denial, the incident was likely to raise already heightened tensions between Israel and Hezbollah, a bitter enemy that battled Israel to a stalemate during a monthlong war in 2006.

A senior Lebanese security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations, said Lebanon had no information on Thursday's incident.

When Israeli military shot down a Hezbollah drone on Oct. 6, it took days for Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah to confirm it. □



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, center, is welcomed by Druse leaders for the holiday of Nabi Shoaib, the Prophet Jethro, during a cultural event with members of the country's Druse minority in the Druse village of Julis, northern Israel, Thursday, April 25, 2013. Israel shot down a drone Thursday as it approached the country's northern coast, the military said.

(AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

China, France vow to promote 'multipolar' world

BEIJING (AP) — China's President Xi Jinping and France's President Francois Hollande pledged to push for a world free of domination by any superpower Thursday as the French leader visited the Chinese capital on a mission to boost trade amid his country's worsening economic woes.

Both leaders stressed their desire for a "multipolar" world that would dilute Washington's influence — though they did not mention the U.S. in their comments.

"China and France are both great countries with a strong sense of independence," Xi said at a news conference, adding that

the two countries would "actively promote a multipolar world and the democratization of international relations."

Xi and Hollande, who is traveling with a delegation representing scores of French businesses, spoke to reporters after meeting at Beijing's Great Hall of the People.

"China and France both want a multipolar world. We want there to be a balance. We refuse a world of powers, and of superpowers," Hollande said. "When China and France agree on a position, we can drive the world."

Officials from the two countries signed an agreement for China to buy 60

planes from France-based Airbus. In addition, French nuclear giant Areva signed an agreement with China National Nuclear Corp. to build a used fuel treatment and recycling facility in the country.

French businesses hit by domestic declines are hop-

ing for additional deals in China in areas including car making, nuclear energy and food exports.

France registered a \$34 billion trade deficit with China last year and accounts for less than 2 percent of the Asian giant's foreign trade. □



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Russian opposition trials testing legal integrity

JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — While one Russian court imposed heavy fines on the country's only independent election-watching group and another heard contentious testimony in the trial of a top opposition leader, President Vladimir Putin on Thursday defended himself against accusations that he is cracking down on dissent. In a nationally televised call-in session lasting nearly five hours, Putin said: "People aren't put behind bars for political reasons. People get sentenced not for their political views or actions, but for abusing law." But the fairness of Russia's laws and legal system were

at the heart of two prominent court cases taking place the same day. In one, the election-monitoring group Golos was fined 300,000 rubles (about \$10,000) for violating a law requiring that non-governmental organizations involved in political activities and receiving money from abroad must register as a foreign agent. It was the first penalty imposed under the law, passed after Putin returned to the Kremlin last year. It was one of several moves appearing to be aimed at opposition members, including a law hugely raising fines for taking part in unauthorized demonstrations. The measure is seen by

many as a move to limit critics and undermine their credibility. Critics say its definition of political activity is

so loose that it could be used against almost any NGO and say the term "foreign agent" tars groups'

images.

The law was passed in the wake of the major anti-Putin demonstrations that broke out in December 2011 and continued through his inauguration. One of the protests' most prominent figures, blogger and anti-corruption activist Alexei Navalny, is on trial in the city of Kirov for allegedly heading a criminal group that embezzled 16 million rubles (\$500,000) from a state-owned timber company. A key prosecution witness contradicted himself in court Thursday, but then insisted that any inconsistencies were because of stress. Navalny said the contradictions demonstrate that the case is a frame-up. □



Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny with his wife Yulia leave a court in Kirov, Russia, Thursday, April 25, 2013. The trial has resumed in the case against Navalny who led protests against President Vladimir Putin and exposed alleged corruption in his government.

(AP Photo /Yevgeny Feldman)

Cyprus eases limits on money transfers

M. HADJICOSTIS

Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Cyprus significantly eased restrictions on money transfers inside and outside the country Thursday to help businesses spur a deeply slumping economy. The Finance Ministry said that it raised the limit on business payments and money transfers abroad that require documentation — but not cumbersome scrutiny and approval from ministry and Central Bank officials — from €20,000 (\$26,160) to €500,000 (\$654,000) euros. Businesses also can now freely make domestic payments or transfers up to 300,000 euros for goods and services. Anything above that amount needs documentation, but not specific approval from officials as before.

The limit on the amount that individuals can transfer from one bank to another was raised from 3,000 to 10,000 euros per month. The limit on such transfers by individuals outside the country was raised from 2,000 to 5,000 euros, while a 5,000 euro monthly cap on credit and debit card spending abroad is lifted. The amount of cash people can take with them while travelling abroad was raised from 2,000 to 3,000 euros. But a daily 300-euro withdrawal limit for individuals and a ban on cashing checks remain in place. Cyprus introduced the restrictions last month — the first that any country has imposed in the eurozone's 14-year history — to prevent a run on its banks as part of a 23 billion euro (\$30 billion) bailout deal with international creditors that

forced savers with over 100,000 euros in deposits in the country's two biggest banks to take heavy losses. Officials said the restrictions will remain in place until confidence in the banks is restored. Cypriot lawmakers have already approved many of the austerity measures that were mandated by the creditors — the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund. They include cuts to government salaries, tax increases and breaking up the country's second largest lender Laiki — which was hard hit by its exposure to bad Greek debt — into a "good" bank that will be folded into the larger Bank of Cyprus and a "bad" bank that will be wound down. □



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Venezuela: Tensions rise amid wait for vote audit

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Tensions are high in Venezuela as opposition leader Henrique Capriles pressures the National Electoral Council to permit a complete audit of the April 14 presidential election. Capriles called on the council to announce by the end of Thursday that it will allow his team to also examine registers containing voters' signatures and fingerprints.

"We are not going to allow you to make fools out of us," Capriles said, directing his statement at representatives of the electoral council during a news conference Wednesday. "We are not going to accept a flawed audit."

The council said last week that it would allow an audit of 46 percent of the vote not already audited. It said it would announce this week when it would



Opposition leader Henrique Capriles gestures during a press conference in Caracas, Venezuela. Venezuela's electoral council said Thursday it would audit the 46 percent vote that was not scrutinized election night. (AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

start comparing vote tallies from each machine with the individual vote receipts from that machine.

Opposition politician Diego Scharifker said a complete audit would reduce tensions on both sides of Ven-

ezuela's political divide. "The country wants to end the election chapter, but with the truth," Scharifker,

a former student leader, said in an email sent to The Associated Press.

As Capriles turned up pressure on the council, Maduro's allies threatened to prosecute him over violence that erupted after the vote.

Iris Varela, an official responsible for overseeing Venezuela's penitentiary system, suggested that Capriles would soon be behind bars.

"We are preparing a cell for you because you must pay for your crimes," Varela said.

Capriles vehemently denies responsibility for isolated acts of violence committed by some of his supporters. On numerous occasions since his narrow election defeat, Capriles has said he's leading "a peaceful struggle" to force the council to agree to a complete audit. □

Argentina's congress limits judicial independence

MICHAEL WARREN

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Argentina's congress passed new limits on judicial independence Thursday, key parts of a package of laws the government promises will "democratize" the country's courts. Opponents say these new laws provide yet another reason not to invest in Argentina, because private property will be much more difficult to protect and President Cristina Fernandez and her appointees will have free reign to govern without court interference.

After shouting at each other throughout the night, deputies approved strict limits on injunctions against government policies, with only a few exceptions for

environmental and human rights cases and "socially vulnerable" plaintiffs. They also approved three new appellate courts.

The key votes were 130 in favor — just one more than they needed — with the ruling Front for Victory party and most of its allies joining in. Because the senate already approved these two measures, they'll become law once officially published.

Another key measure making it easier to discipline and fire judges now goes back to the senate for final approval, along with three other measures already approved in the House.

Lawmakers who lacked the votes to block them in congress announced they would challenge them as unconstitutional, giving

the supreme court the final word.

Argentina's judiciary system is plagued with problems, which the government often blames on rules made during the 1976-1983 dictatorship and judges who respond more to corporate interests than popular will. Civil conflicts can take many years to resolve, if ever.

Criminals remain free pending long-delayed appeals. Judges impose injunctions that remain in place indefinitely while failing to address the merits of cases.

"This is not a government that restricts rights, but one that amplifies them," Front for Victory Deputy Hector Recalde said.

But the new limits on judicial independence have

been resisted by many sectors of society, from press freedom and human rights groups to environmental organizations, unions and business chambers. Criticism also came from abroad, with Human Rights Watch Americas Director Jose Miguel Vivanco predicting that presidents

will get automatic majorities on the council of magistrates, enabling them to fire judges at will.

"Every one of us agrees with the need to reform the judiciary, but never at the cost of independence," Peronist Front Deputy Alfredo Atanasof said as the debate stretched on. □



In Cuba, much work remains 6 months after Sandy

PETER ORSI

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Many people in eastern Cuba are still living with family or in houses covered by flimsy makeshift rooftops six months after Hurricane Sandy pummeled the island's eastern provinces, residents and aid workers said Thursday.

Many praised the government's efforts to rebuild Santiago and other cities but said much work remains to recover from the storm, which caused 11 deaths in Cuba before raging up the U.S. Atlantic Seaboard and killing 72.

"It was very hard-hit, but Santiago is once again blossoming," Aristides Zayas, a receptionist in Santiago said in a phone interview. "Of course the magnitude was such that not everything can get off the ground in six months. It will take time."

The half-year mark comes amid preparations for similar commemoration by states up and down the U.S. East Coast, where Sandy blew ashore in New Jersey on Oct. 29 as a monster storm that resulted in billions of dollars in damage. Sandy had raked eastern Cuba four days earlier, causing major crop losses and damaging an estimated 130,000 to 200,000

homes. The government has not said how many of those have yet to be repaired or rebuilt.

Cuban scientists say Sandy's surge penetrated 50 yards (meters) inland and permanently altered much of the eastern coastline, washing away entire

distribute food and water and replant uprooted trees. Authorities also extended loans for rebuilding and knocked 50 percent off the price of home materials for storm victims.

Communist Party newspaper Granma said Thursday that for visitors today,

(50 kilometers) east of Santiago. "Some people have roofs, but others still do not. There are people who are getting rained on, and it's thanks to neighbors that they have somewhere to go."

She said some who live in informal housing situations

have had difficulty getting their hands on building materials, because residents are required to show property titles to get the discounted items.

An international aid worker who has been closely involved in the relief effort said construction materials like bricks and corrugated iron rooftops are in short supply since local production

is not meeting demand, and many items must be imported. Some families have moved back into damaged homes with just plastic sheets covering the roofs.

"They've done really well on re-establishing access to services like electric-

ity and water, reopening roads, clearing out trees that have fallen down," the person said, speaking on condition of anonymity in order to maintain the organization's relationship with island authorities. "All of that was quite quick given the scale of the impact."

"But at the individual level there's still a lot of work that needs to be done ... and my sense is that the government can't tend to every family's individual needs." State-run news agency Prensa Latina reported this week that Santiago provincial authorities are prioritizing construction to make sure everyone displaced by Sandy has a safe place to live, a mission that takes on more urgency with the 2013 Atlantic hurricane season set to begin June 1. There's also still plenty of work for international aid groups, which are continuing to distribute things like water tanks, purification tablets, mattresses, sheets, towels and other household goods.

"There's still a lot of families that are living in very precarious situations," the aid worker said. "Now that's a bit of a concern, because the rainy season's coming and you want to make sure that people have proper shelter." □



Residents walk past tree branches and power lines felled by Hurricane Sandy in Santiago de Cuba in October, 2012. Many people in eastern Cuba are still living with family or in houses covered by flimsy makeshift rooftops six months after Hurricane Sandy pummeled the island's eastern provinces, residents and aid workers said Thursday.
(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

beaches and depositing sand elsewhere.

Shortly after the storm hit, Cuban President Raul Castro visited Santiago and said the city looked like it had been "bombed."

Cuba's highly organized civil defense brigades mobilized to get newly homeless people into shelters,

"the first thing that catches one's attention and impresses ... is to find a clean and well-ordered city."

But residents said problems remain.

"From what I hear some things are still lacking," said Sister Mirtha, a Roman Catholic nun in the town of El Cobre, 30 miles

Haiti police: Canadian killed after leaving bank

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Haitian detectives are investigating the killing of a Canadian priest who was shot to death Thursday as he left a bank in the Caribbean nation's capital, authorities said.

Police inspector Aladin Jean-Louis said that 62-year-old Richard E. Joyal had just withdrawn \$1,000 from a bank about 10:30 a.m. when two men on a motorcycle approached and grabbed a bag he was carrying. The passenger shot him three times in the back.

Authorities later found the \$1,000 in Joyal's wallet and confiscated the money. The contents of Joyal's



Cash and personal belongings that were spread on the ground by police lay at the feet of the body of Canadian priest Richard E. Joyal who was killed as people look on in Delmas, a district in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Thursday, April 25, 2013.
(AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery)

billfold included a driver's license showing he was from Quebec.

Another identification card showed he was a priest who worked as an administrator for a Canadian congregation in the Delmas district of Port-au-Prince.

Police investigating the shooting in Delmas redirected traffic on one of the busiest thoroughfares in the capital.

The United States in December sharpened its travel warning to Haiti, citing kidnappings and other crime, cholera and a tattered infrastructure. Canada followed with a similar advisory. □



RUSH magazine vol.17 is OUT!

ORANJESTAD - Rush magazine is Aruba's Xtreme Sports magazine, and now their 17th edition is in English.

The magazine started in 2007 exposing: Xtreme Sports, Music, Fashion, Nightlife & educational articles promoting for youth and adults to read and live a healthy extreme lifestyle. The first 16 editions were in Papiamentu (Aruba's language) and the magazine got excellent local and international reaction. Now that the magazine is in English, everyone can enjoy and understand each story!

In Rush magazine you can read stories & interviews and see the best pictures of Extreme Sports in Aruba of: BMX, Skateboarding, Surfing, Bodyboarding, Kitesurfing, windsurfing, Mountain Bike, MMA, Karting, and Drifting, as well as Tattoo, Photography, Fashion,



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 - Black Sheep in the main street
 - Pizza Pazza at the Hostaria da Vittoro Restaurant in front of Hyatt Hotel
 - MC Dushi Bagels at the Mill Resort at the Oude Molen
 - Amazonas souvenirs shop at Aruba Beach Club
 - The Market at Alhambra Mall
 - Casa del Mar Minimarket
 - Holiday Inn souvenirs shop
 - Tamarijn souvenir shop
 - Wave souvenir shop at the Tamarijn Hotel
 - Bushiri Karting Speedway Rental Karts
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- For more info visit their website: www.rusharuba.com □



Promoting travel without limits:

Kristof Steegmans of WETRAVEL2 visits Aruba!

PALM BEACH - Kristof Steegmans of WETRAVEL2 is currently on the island staying at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa. Wetravel2, an international organization he founded from his home in Belgium, offers travel arrangements for people with temporary or permanent physical disabilities, because, as Kristof explains it, the joy of travel is within reach of everyone, even individuals with physical disability can travel, providing their basic needs are cared for!

In order to make travel to Aruba possible for WETRAVEL2 clients, Kristof is putting together a professional network of service-providers who have adapted transportation, including airport transfers, to the needs of individuals in wheelchairs. He is also creating a directory of companies who render assistance with specialized rental equipment, and researches the availability of medical assistance and access to handicapped-friendly excursions, hotels,



restaurants, and attractions.

Kristof who suffered an unfortunate injury more than 20 years ago while river diving, has the skills, experience and contacts, making it possible for fellow-travelers with disabilities to enjoy the exploration of

new places.

The fun of travel, Kristof explains, is now within reach in four different destinations including Tenerife, Aruba, Curaçao and Kenya (Tanzania & Zanzibar), via custom packages by authorized travel agencies and tour operators.

WETRAVEL2 is available to consult and supply references to that expanding niche market which due to the aging of the population, is growing into a lucrative global market.

Travel is a family affair Kristof concludes for people with disabilities who would like to join their friends, and their family members including children. Having an international network of service providers at your finger tips, makes that dream of having a completely normal life fairly possible.

We never focus on the impossible, he shares; we'd rather focus on what is possible, through support, equipment and logistics!

In addition to advising individuals, Wetravel2 also offers professional advice and training on how to create handicapped-friendly facilities, to travel agencies, tour operators, hotels and transport companies. While collecting travel offers and listing local services, WETRAVEL2 markets them to its members.

Contact Kristof about the company's offers and possibilities! www.wetravel2.eu. Pictured here the founder of WETRAVEL2, on the pier, adjacent to the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, where he is staying for the second time, enjoying the resort's handicapped-friendly facilities. □

Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa honors outstanding employees!

MANCHEBO BEACH - Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa recognized four of its employees for their outstanding contribution and performances during the Employee of the 1st Quarter 2013 celebration on Tuesday April 23 2013.

The managers nominated the employees Autar 'Tara' Rawattie from the kitchen for being an all-ground great asset to the kitchen, Rafael Ruiz from the maintenance department for his great attitude and always willing to help during all the renovations, Stephanie Arrindell from Ike's Bistro for being a great team player and working hard and Sandra Duinker from the front-desk for her big smile and amazing attitude towards the guests and making them feel at home. Congratulations

to all the employees of Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, the resort is doing great because of their great team spirit!

The ultimate Caribbean vacation experience begins at this intimate, 2-story boutique resort located on the shores of Eagle Beach, an ideal place for romantic and rejuvenating get-aways. Simply relax beside the Caribbean Sea on a breathtaking stretch of beach savoring refreshing cocktails. 72 Deluxe Ocean and Garden View Rooms are newly renovated in an inviting, contemporary Island décor and feature top-notch amenities to make your stay relaxing and enjoyable. Rooms are cool and comfortable with soft linens and a bathroom featuring a soothing waterfall shower. □

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On The
Beach**

Amy

She is enjoying the warmth of the sun here in Aruba

Amy is from Massachusetts

Staying in the Occidental Hotel

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A photograph of a woman named Amy, wearing sunglasses and a blue bikini, relaxing on a blue beach chair. She is smiling and looking towards the camera.

The Blue Lobster

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Baby Got Back Bugaloe Guests Beth and Wilbur!

PALM BEACH - This week Bugaloe has the honor to welcome guests Wilbur and Beth Arnold from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania who have been coming to Aruba for 6 years already! Their location of choice is the Radisson Hotel because of its proximity to Bugaloe. Why they keep returning to Bugaloe is simple they say: the crew, ser-

vice and everybody who comes in for a good time! Their favorite menu item is the Coconut shrimp, with a local Balashi beer for Beth and a Captain and coke for Wilbur. The crew has specially selected Beth and Wilbur this week for their unique dancing skills! The Crew always loves when they come in

and bust their signature move to "Baby Got Back". And on Wednesday Salsa Night, Beth and Wilbur show guests how Salsa and Meringue should really be done. The Bugaloe crew would like to thank Beth and Wilbur for being such loyal Bugaloe guests and hope to see them more often! ☐



May 12, 2013: Bugaloe Beach Volleyball Tournament!!!

PALM BEACH- Start practicing that volley and make sure you're ready for the popular Bugaloe Volleyball Tournament May 12! Organized by Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill in collaboration with CoolFM, locals are invited to participate in a day of fun. Team up in 6 (FUN) or 4 (ADVANCED) players, and ensure those trophies are yours! The relaxing beach tunes will be provided by our friends at Cool-FM and you can cool off in between matches with a cold beer! At the end of the day the Equator Band will take care of those bruised hips and aching muscles and makes you swing your way onto the dance floor!

Starting at 10 a.m. the tournament takes place at Palm Beach right in front of Bugaloe Beach Bar. Not only you can win some awesome prizes, but the event will combine a great day of fun with raising funds for Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad. This non-profit organization helps families in Aruba, living in poverty, meet their basic needs. The Food Bank, F.P.N.C. biggest project, provides food, clothing and furniture for these families. Make sure you sign up for a fun day with your friends, siblings or colleagues at www.arubabeachvolleyball.com and mark the date in your calendar today! ☐



OFFERS FOOD FESTIVAL:

Casa Tua

Mini Paella Afl 12.50
Fettuccine Alfredo Afl 10.50
Calamari Fritti Afl 9.00
Sautéed Mussel in Garlic and white wine Afl 7.50
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Cuba's Cookin'

Local Special Menu Afl 28,50
Grouper fillet con salsa criolo, funchi, pan bati & banana hasa

Hung Paradise

Chicken friend wonton & chicken teriyaki for Afl 25,-
Chicken spring rolls and beef broccoli for Afl 32,-

Grand Café Tropical

Specials on Chill, Balashi, Bacardi and Dewars.

Captain Cooks Minimarket

Special on Balashi Chill Afl 4.50 - \$ 2.55 per bottle.

Hopi Bon Grill

Grilled steak burger with potatoes \$ 12
Chicken and beef skewers \$ 12
Mixed seafood pasta \$ 15
Aruban Dessert Delights - Rum Cake or Caramel Flan \$ 4

The Cinemas

Movie tickets for \$ 5.60. Between 5pm - 7pm. Only at the box office.

Spanglish

3 Course menu Afl. 25,50
Entrée: Empanadas de queso
Main Course: Breaded grouper with rice maduros and creole sauce, Dessert: Flan

Café The Plaza

Dutch Pea soup with rye bread \$ 5
Russian Salad \$ 10
Potato stew with raw endive \$ 10
Served with a meatball or sausage
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Haagen Dasz

Free toppings with ice cream purchases.

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10% off on your dinner check!

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Sunglasses \$10. Beach bags \$ 6 each 3 for \$ 20.
10% discount on selected items.

Miss 21 Accessories

3 accessories for \$ 10.00, \$ 4 and \$ 5 sections.

Rage

Discount Box with 0% - 75%
Pick your own discount with any purchase.

Cilo City Lounge

3 Course menu for \$ 30 per person.
Entrée Royal Soup \$ 6.50
Main Course: Beef tenderloin festively served with roasted pumpkin and a creamy Cognac sauce \$ 20
Dessert: Traditional Dutch tompouce crowned with Orange confit and a shot of Orange bitter liquor \$ 7.50

Maggy's Full Service Salon

Book any service at Maggy's Renaissance Market Place and receive a gift!
Offer is valid only on April 29th 2013 and one gift per client even if they have booked multiple services.

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2 FREE toppings
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During a tour of Playa Linda: Hospitality students learn about Aruba's timeshare industry



PALM BEACH - Students for the University of Aruba, Hospitality section, recently took a tour of the Playa Linda Beach Resort, in discovering more about timeshare operations in Aruba. Playa Linda General Manager Jan van Nes was a recent lecturer at the University, providing insight on the industry through his long experience working in tourism, and specifically with timeshare at the Playa Linda as well as with the Aruba Timeshare Association. The onsite visit was a continuation of that introduc-



tion, with more detailed information on specific roles within timeshare operations provided by Playa Linda staff.

"These students are a motivated group, and we are happy to share with them a view of day-to-day responsibilities working in Aruba's vibrant timeshare industry," explains General Manager Jan van Nes. "We think it is important to open our

resort and function as a goodwill ambassador for the industry in welcoming the next generation of Aruba's tourism professionals." The students had the opportunity to stop in to speak with different department heads, who each offered an explanation on his or her role within the resort. From the front of the house, Roosje Roose with Front Desk and Reservations, Sulaika Kelly with Human Resources, Walter Mohamed with Security and, from the back of the house, Remo Kock of Domestic Facilities, Ingrid Todd with Housekeeping and Peter van Grinsven with Maintenance, all offered expert views, enlightening students on career choices.

A total of 24 students, broken into four groups, toured the resort, taking in a diverse amount of information before ending the visit with a congenial lunch held on property at Azzurro. □



Maria Sharapova from Russia serves against Lucie Safarova from Czech Republic in her second round match of the WTA tennis tournament in Stuttgart, Germany, Thursday, April 25, 2013.

Associated Press

Sharapova needs more than 3 hours to win

NESHA STARCEVIC

AP Sports Writer

STUTTGART, Germany

(AP) — Top-seeded Maria Sharapova needed three sets and more than three hours Thursday in her clay-court debut of the year to overcome Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic for a place in the quarterfinals of the Porsche Grand Prix. Sharapova, the defending champion, won 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-3 in a match that lasted 3:09 hours.

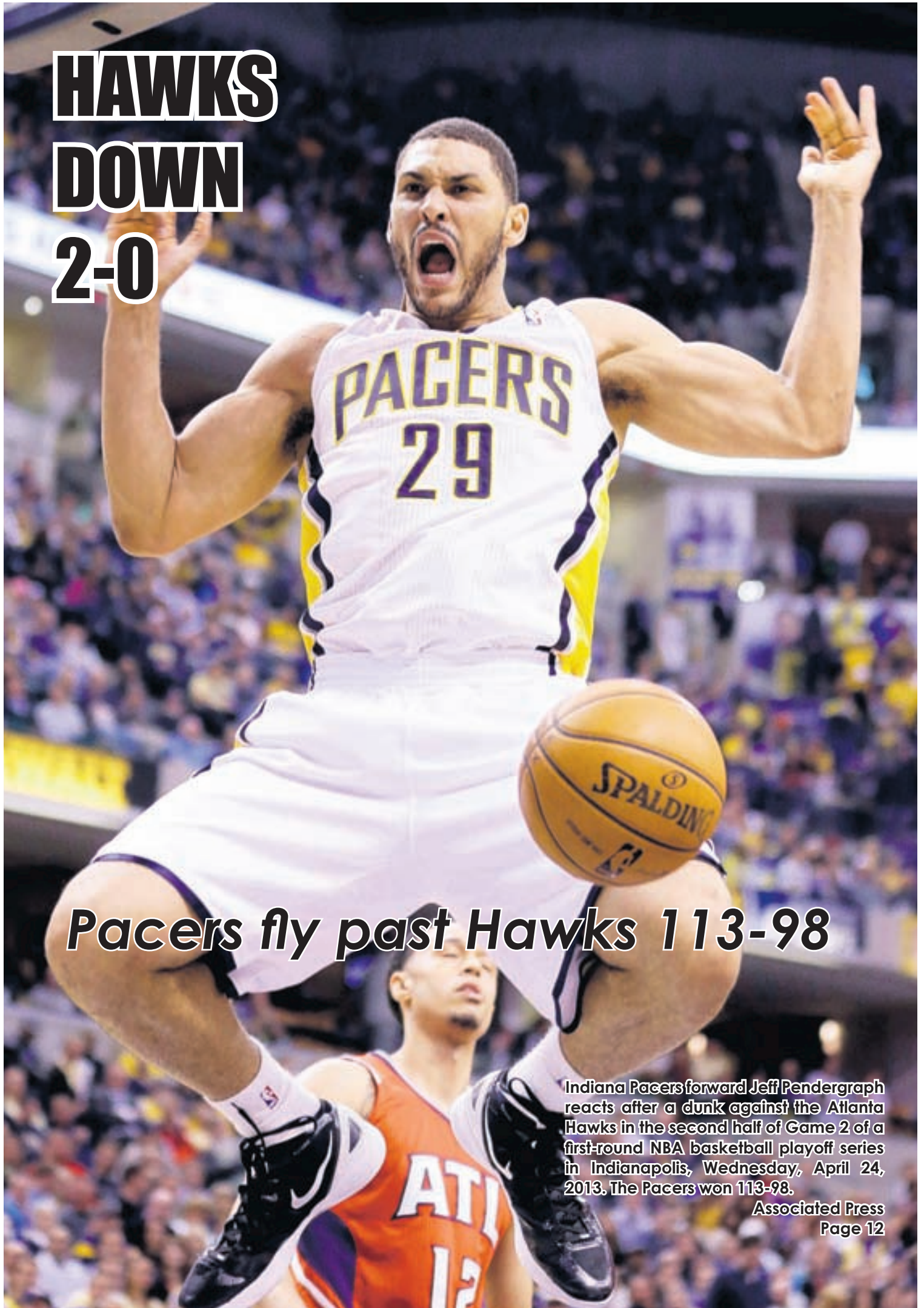
The Russian saved two set points in the second set before surrendering the tie-breaker, in which she had one of her eight double-faults. She also had eight aces.

Sharapova, who used this indoor clay tournament last year to prepare for her French Open victory, broke serve for a 4-2 lead but needed five match points to close out the encounter.

Continued on Page 18

HAWKS DOWN 2-0

Pacers fly past Hawks 113-98



Indiana Pacers forward Jeff Pendergraph reacts after a dunk against the Atlanta Hawks in the second half of Game 2 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series in Indianapolis, Wednesday, April 24, 2013. The Pacers won 113-98.

Associated Press
Page 12

Blackhawks beat Oilers, secure Presidents' Trophy

The Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP)

— Patrick Kane had a goal and two assists, and the Chicago Blackhawks secured the Presidents' Trophy for the first time in 22 years with a 4-1 victory over the Edmonton Oilers on Wednesday night.

The Blackhawks (35-6-5) held off the Eastern Conference-leading Pittsburgh Penguins for the top regular-season record in the NHL.

Jonathan Toews, Patrick Sharp and Johnny Oduya also scored for the Blackhawks, who have gone 10-1-2 in their last 13 games and clinched the league's best record for the first time since 1991.

Nail Yakupov scored for the Oilers (17-22-7), who lost for the ninth time in 10 games.

Corey Crawford came in to replace Blackhawks starting goalie Ray Emery with 6:11 left in the first after Emery sustained a lower body injury. But Emery was credited with the win.

RED WINGS 3, KINGS 1

DETROIT (AP) — Jordin Tootoo netted the go-ahead goal early in the third period, and Johan Franzen scored on a power play with 6:26 left, lifting the Detroit Red Wings to a 3-1 win



Chicago Blackhawks' Johnny Oduya, 27, and Patrick Sharp celebrate a goal against the Edmonton Oilers during third period NHL hockey action in Edmonton, Alberta, Wednesday, April 24, 2013. Associated Press

Wednesday night over the Los Angeles Kings and into eighth place in the Western Conference.

Detroit is one point ahead of Columbus and one behind seventh-place Minnesota.

All three teams have two games remaining. The Red Wings are aiming to extend their postseason streak to 22, the longest in North American professional sports.

Detroit's Jimmy Howard made 23 saves, and Pavel Datsyuk scored a game-tying goal midway through the second period.

Kyle Clifford scored the lone goal for the defending Stanley Cup champion Kings, who are trying to finish fourth to earn home-ice advantage in the first round of the playoffs. Jonathan Quick made 33 saves, including 13 in the first period when the Kings recorded only four shots on Howard.

LIGHTNING 5, MAPLE LEAFS 2

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — Martin St. Louis scored three goals and Tampa Bay snapped a six-game losing streak with a victory

over Toronto.

St. Louis, who has 16 goals this season, took over the lead in the NHL scoring race with 58 points — two more than teammate Steven Stamkos and injured Pittsburgh Penguins forward Sidney Crosby.

Stamkos scored his 29th goal, two behind NHL-leading Alex Ovechkin of Washington, and added an assist. Radko Gudas gave the Lightning a 3-2 lead in the third period.

With 55 points, Toronto is one point ahead of the New York Islanders for fifth place in the Eastern Conference.

Both teams, who have already clinched playoff berths, have two games remaining.

Toronto took a 1-0 lead with 2:57 remaining in the first period when Phil Kessel pushed a wrist shot past goalie Ben Bishop. Joffrey Lupul scored with 24 seconds remaining in the second to get the Maple Leafs even at 2.

COYOTES 2, SHARKS 1

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Mike Smith stopped 33 shots, and Phoenix prevented San Jose from moving up in the Western Conference standings.

The Sharks had a chance to pass Los Angeles for fourth in the West, but the Coyotes played more like the team still in the playoff hunt.

Phoenix beat Thomas Greiss for two goals in the first period and played the tight-checking style that had been so successful the previous three seasons. That left the Sharks tied with the Kings at 57 points. Michael Stone and Keith Yandle both scored, and Shane Doan had a pair of assists for Phoenix.

Brent Burns scored and Greiss stopped 30 shots in his first start since March 6 for the Sharks, who will close the season against the defending Stanley Cup champion Kings in Los Angeles on Saturday.

In other NHL games it was Phoenix 2, San Jose 1; Tampa 5, Toronto 2; Detroit 3, L.A. 1 and Chicago 4, Edmonton 1. □

Sharapova

Continued from Page 17

The match ended when she hit a net cord that dropped into Safarova's half. Safarova reached it but could only send it back long and wide.

"I've had a few three hour games in my career, so I knew I just had to keep fighting until the end," Sharapova said. "That's when it's the time to get the game-plan going and calm down a little bit."

"Clay is one of her favorite surfaces and I knew this was going to be a tough game, so I am glad to get through. The first match of the clay-court season is always tough, it's nothing like practicing," she said.

Sharapova's quarterfinal opponent will be Ana Ivanovic of Serbia, who beat



Lucie Safarova from Czech Republic hits a backhand against Maria Sharapova from Russia in her second round match of the WTA tennis tournament in Stuttgart, Germany, Thursday, April 25, 2013.

Associated Press

novic of Serbia, who beat eight-seeded Russian Nadia Petrova 6-4, 6-3.

Seeded players Li Na, Angelique Kerber and Petra Kvitova advanced to the

quarterfinals in different fashion.

The second-seeded Li swept past qualifier Mirjana Lucic-Baroni 6-1, 6-2, and the third-seeded Ker-

ber defeated Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-0, 6-4. The fifth-seeded Kvitova rallied past 2011 champion Julia Goerges 2-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2. Kvitova is the 2011 Wimbledon champion and looking for her second title of the year.

One day after upsetting Caroline Wozniacki, Carla Suarez Navarro lost 7-5, 6-4 to Yaroslava Shvedova.

Kerber will play Shvedova in the quarterfinals, while Li faces Kvitova.

Sabine Lisicki of Germany beat Jelena Jankovic of Serbia 7-6 (3), 7-5 in a match that could have gone the other way too.

Lisicki needed seven set points to close the first set and used her third match point to finish it, after wasting one of them with a double-fault.

NBA Playoff Capsules

Parker leads Spurs to 102-91 win over Lakers

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tony Parker had 28 points and seven assists and San Antonio beat the Los Angeles Lakers 102-91 on Wednesday night to take a 2-0 lead in their first-round playoff series. Tim Duncan and Kawhi Leonard had 16 points each, Manu Ginobili added 13 points and Matt Bonner had 10 for San Antonio. Dwight Howard and Steve Blake had 16 points each to lead Los Angeles. Metta World Peace and Pau Gasol added 13 points each, but no other player had more than nine as the Lakers shot 45 percent from the field. Game 3 is Friday night in Los Angeles.

The Spurs shot 51 percent from the field after shooting 38 percent in Game 1. San Antonio was 7 for 14 on 3-pointers, including 5 for 7 in the first half.

The Lakers shot 37 percent (9 for 24) in the first quarter, a slight improvement over their 7-for-20 performance (35 percent) in the open-

ing quarter of Game 1.

THUNDER 105, ROCKETS 102 Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook both scored 29 points as Oklahoma City recovered after squandering a 15-point lead in the fourth quarter to take a 2-0 series lead.

Durant hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 2:28 to play, and the Thunder didn't relinquish the lead after that. Durant missed a free throw with 1 second left, but Houston was out of timeouts and Carlos Delfino couldn't connect on a desperation shot at the final buzzer.

James Harden scored 36 points and spearheaded a 21-2 comeback that wiped out the big deficit and put the Rockets up 95-91. But the top-seeded Thunder were able to respond and protect the home-court advantage they'd spent all season earning.

Game 3 is Saturday night in Houston.

The Thunder's big lead melted away with nine

straight empty possessions as the Rockets mixed in a zone defense. Oklahoma City came back to tie it before Harden knifed to the basket for a layup to give Houston its last lead, 97-95 with 2:42 to play. Durant answered right away with a deep 3 from the left wing, and the Thunder came up with back-to-back stops before Thabo Sefolosha's 3 provided a little breathing room at 101-97.

PACERS 113, HAWKS 98 INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Paul George followed his triple-double by scoring a playoff career-high 27 points to lead Indiana to a 2-0 series lead. The Pacers have won four straight home games over the Hawks. It's the first time Indiana has held a 2-0 series lead since the 2004 Eastern Conference semifinals. George, playing in his first game since being named the league's Most Improved Player, was 11 of 21 from the field, had eight rebounds, three assists



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) reaches for a loose ball in front of Houston Rockets center Omer Asik (3) in the third quarter of Game 2 of their first-round NBA basketball playoff series in Oklahoma City, Wednesday, April 24, 2013. Oklahoma City won 105-102.

Associated Press

and four steals and again played well defensively. George Hill had 22 points. Atlanta was led by Devin Harris with 17 points. Jeff Teague and Josh Smith

both had 16.

Game 3 is Saturday in Atlanta.

Indiana again took control late in the first quarter and never trailed again. □

MLS decides against goal-line technology

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Soccer has decided against installing goal-line technology because it doesn't want to spend the money. MLS commissioner Don Garber said last April his league was "open to using goal-line technology as soon as it is made available." He said

on Thursday the league decided to hold off, saying "cost is the overriding factor." FIFA announced in February that goal-line technology will be used at next year's World Cup, and the English Premier League said this month it approved the technology for next season. □



In this Feb. 15, 2012, file photo, Major League Soccer commissioner Don Garber addresses the Montreal Board of Trade in Montreal.

Associated Press

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NL Capsules

Cardinals beat Strasburg, Nationals 4-2 for sweep

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Yadier Molina hit a two-run single off Stephen Strasburg during St. Louis' three-run first inning as the Cardinals beat the Nationals 4-2 Wednesday to complete a sweep and give Washington's All-Star ace the only four-start losing streak of his young career.

Jaime Garcia (2-1) allowed a run on Bryce Harper's sixth-inning groundout, but otherwise added to the offensive struggles of the Nationals, who have lost six consecutive home games and nine of their last 12 overall to fall to 10-11.

Washington produced only four runs in the three-game set, a rematch of the 2012 NL division series won by St. Louis.

Needing to be nearly perfect given Washington's lack of offense, Strasburg (1-4) struggled through a 26-pitch, 12-minute first inning.

Strasburg, who hasn't won since opening day against Miami, settled down and threw 110 pitches over seven innings, giving up no other runs and a total of five hits, along with seven strikeouts.

ROCKIES 6, BRAVES 5, 12 INNINGS

DENVER (AP) — Wilin Rosario scored on Yorvit Tor-



St. Louis Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina watches his two-RBI single during the first inning of a baseball game against the Washington Nationals at Nationals Park Wednesday, April 24, 2013, in Washington.

realba's single to left in the 12th inning as Colorado rallied in the ninth to deny Atlanta's Tim Hudson his 200th career win.

Michael Cuddyer and Josh Rutledge homered for the Rockies, who ended a three-game skid behind one-hit pitching by the bullpen over the last six innings. Matt Belisle (1-1), the fourth reliever used by Colorado, pitched two perfect frames.

Rosario led off the 12th with a double to left off Luis Ayala (1-1). After Cuddyer was intentionally walked, Belisle struck out on a bunt attempt. Torrealba ripped a single to left, and Justin Upton's throw home was wide as Rosario slid in with the winning run.

DIAMONDBACKS 3, GIANTS 2, 10 INNINGS

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Pinch hitter Will Nieves delivered a sacrifice fly in the

10th inning to lift Arizona to a victory over San Francisco.

Gerardo Parra and A.J. Pollack also drove in a run for the Diamondbacks, who beat the Giants in 11 innings Tuesday night. Didi Gregorius had two hits.

Arizona led 2-1 before Brandon Crawford hit a tying homer off David Hernandez (1-0) with one out in the ninth. Crawford also doubled home a run in the

seventh and finished with three hits.

Matt Reynolds got three outs for his second save in as many days.

Chad Gaudin (0-1) worked 2-3 of an inning in taking the loss.

REDS 1, CUBS 0

CINCINNATI (AP) — Mat Latos Latos retired the first 10 batters and 15 of the first 16 he faced and mostly spared an overworked bullpen, leading Cincinnati over Chicago. Todd Frazier hit a long home run to provide all the scoring Latos would need. With one out in the sixth inning of a scoreless tie, Frazier blasted a 2-1 pitch from Jeff Samardzija (1-4) 480 feet to straightaway center field to increase his team-leading home run total to six. Latos (1-0), the victim of two blown saves among his first four starts this season, allowed four hits and a walk with four strikeouts. Aroldis Chapman pitched the ninth for his fourth save. Samardzija (1-4) allowed seven hits and three walks with eight strikeouts and a wild pitch.

PIRATES 5, PHILLIES 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Brandon Inge got a pinch-hit tiebreaking RBI single in the eighth inning and Pittsburgh rallied to beat Philadelphia. □



Boston Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia, right, and former teammate Oakland Athletics' Jed Lowrie (8) both look down to first after Lowrie was forced out at second on a fielder's choice during the fourth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Wednesday, April 24, 2013.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Stephen Drew hit a two-run triple, David Ortiz had two hits and drove in a run and the

Boston Red Sox beat the Oakland Athletics 6-5 on Wednesday afternoon to take a three-game series. It was Boston's ninth win in

AL Capsules

Ortiz, Drew carry Red Sox past A's 6-5

12 games and came after a 13-0 loss to Oakland a night earlier.

Chris Young had a three-run homer and a solo shot for the Athletics, who finished a six-game road trip 1-5. They were swept at the Tampa Bay Rays over the weekend.

Ortiz is 8 for 16 since returning to the lineup on Saturday for the first time since last August. He missed 71 of the final 72 games last season and all of spring training with an Achilles tendon injury.

BLUE JAYS 6, ORIOLES 5, 11 INNINGS

BALTIMORE (AP) — Jim Johnson walked Maicer Izturis with the bases loaded in the 11th inning to force in the tiebreaking run, and the Blue Jays beat the Orioles to avert a three-game sweep and end Baltimore's run of consecutive extra-inning victories at 17.

The Blue Jays hit four home runs, but the decisive run came without Izturis taking a swing. With two outs in the 11th, J.P. Arencibia and Munenori Kawaski sin-

gled before Johnson (1-2) hit Brett Lawrie with a pitch and issued a four-pitch walk to Izturis, the No. 9 hitter in the lineup.

Esmil Rogers (1-1) pitched the 10th and Casey Jansen got three straight outs for his sixth save.

WHITE SOX 3, INDIANS 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Alex Rios hit a two-run homer and the White Sox beat the Indians to stop a four-game losing streak.

Continued on Next Page

MLB won't interrupt season for Olympics

RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball won't change its schedule to boost the sport's chances of getting back into the Olympics. Baseball was an Olympic medal sport from 1992-2008, then was dropped for last year's London Games. IOC President Jacques Rogge says baseball should make its top athletes available, as they are in basketball and hockey.

"Look, we can't stop our season in August. We just can't," baseball Commissioner Bud Selig told the Associated Press Sports Editors on Thursday. "You can't say to your fans: 'We'll see you in the next period of time. Your club loses some players but yours doesn't.'" The IOC board meets next month to select one or more sports for consideration by September's IOC general assembly. In an effort to boost the chance of readmission for 2020, the

international baseball and softball federations are merging.

Some have suggested major leaguers could play in the Olympics during an extended All-Star break. Selig was clear that MLB's schedule will not be interrupted, and that weather made an earlier start or later ending impossible.

"Do I wish I could? Yes," he said. "But is it practical? No." The sport launched its own international event in 2006, the World Baseball Classic. The first two tournaments were won by Japan, and the Dominican Republic took this year's title last month. Many top American pitchers didn't play for their national team, including David Price, Justin Verlander, Jered Weaver, Clayton Kershaw and Matt Cain. Some clubs were reluctant to have their players participate.

"They just didn't want to take a chance," Selig said. "And frankly, if I were running a club, I wouldn't ei-

ther."

He does hope to add another international competition.

"My ultimate goal, I hope I live long enough to see it, is a true World Series," he said. "We have a ways to go." On another international matter, Selig would like to institute a worldwide amateur draft for 2014. Under baseball's labor contract, MLB must notify the players' association by June 1 of its intent to start an international draft for next year, and the union would have until June 15 to veto it. "We met with the players' association last week, had extended conversations on the topic," said Rob Manfred, an MLB executive vice president. "It's within the realm of the possible that we will have an agreement by June 1." Union head Michael Weiner responded in an email to The Associated Press: "We have begun discussion, but I wouldn't prejudge the results." □



In this Jan. 23, 2013, file photo, MLB Commissioner Bud Selig speaks at a news conference at Great American Ballpark in Cincinnati. Associated Press

AL Capsules

Continued from Page 20

Jeff Keppinger had two hits and drove in a run for the White Sox, who earned a split of the rain-shortened series. Jose Quintana (2-0) was charged with two runs and four hits in five-plus innings.

Rios connected in the fifth, hitting a two-out drive to left on an 0-2 pitch from Zach McAllister (1-3). Rios leads the White Sox with six homers.

ASTROS 10, MARINERS 3
HOUSTON (AP) — Chris Carter, Ronny Cedeno and Brandon Laird homered, Lucas Harrell pitched seven innings, and the Astros beat the Mariners. The Astros took two of three in the series, and four of their seven wins this season have come against the Mariners, their new AL West foe. Seattle and Miami are the only teams without a series win this season.

Carter hit a solo shot in the second, Cedeno belted a three-run shot in the fourth and Laird also connected for a three-run drive in Houston's five-run sixth. Harrell (2-2) allowed a run and six hits.

TIGERS 7, ROYALS 5
DETROIT (AP) — Jose Valverde returned to Detroit with a save and Victor Martinez drove in a pair of runs to help the Tigers beat the Royals.

Max Scherzer (2-0) got the win, allowing five runs in five innings, with three Tigers relievers finishing the game. Valverde, called up earlier in the day, returned to the Tigers with a perfect ninth inning. Valverde lost the closing role during the postseason and wasn't offered a contract, but signed a minor-league deal earlier this month and returned to Detroit after a short minor-league stint.

Wade Davis (2-1) took the loss, giving up seven runs —

three earned — in 3 2-3 innings. Davis allowed eight hits and four walks while only getting 11 outs.

RAYS 3, YANKEES 0
ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Alex Cobb scattered three hits over 8 1-3 innings, Ben Zobrist drove in two runs and the Rays beat the Yankees.

Cobb (3-1) gave up only two hits through the eighth — Eduardo Nunez's second-inning single and an infield single by Jayson Nix in the sixth. The right-hander, who struck out seven and walked one, was replaced by Fernando Rodney after giving up a one-out single in the ninth to Brett Gardner.

After allowing Ichiro Suzuki's single, Rodney completed his third save by retiring Robinson Cano and Travis Hafner.

Zobrist put the Rays up 2-0 on a two-out, two-run double off Andy Pettitte (3-1) in the fifth. □

PALM BEACH PLAZA

Megaplex 8

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APRIL 25 - MAY 1

NEW THIS WEEK

ON TWO SCREENS

Mark Wahlberg Dwayne Johnson

PAIN & GAIN

Mon - Thurs 4:00 / 5:45 / 6:25 / 8:30 / 9:15
Fri 4:00 / 5:45 / 6:25 / 8:30 / 9:15 / 11:15
Sat 2:50 / 3:40 / 5:45 / 6:25 / 8:30 / 9:15 / 11:15
Sun & Hol 2:50 / 3:40 / 5:45 / 6:25 / 8:30 / 9:15

NEW THIS WEEK

ON TWO SCREENS

Robert De Niro Diane Keaton

The Big Wedding

Mon - Thurs 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30
Fri 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30 / 11:40
Sat 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30 / 11:40
Sun & Hol 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30

ON TWO SCREENS

Tom Cruise Morgan Freeman

OBLIVION

With Spanish Subtitles **PG-13**

Mon - Thurs 4:00 / 5:05 / 6:40 / 7:45 / 9:20
Fri 4:00 / 5:05 / 6:40 / 7:45 / 9:20 / 10:25 / 12:00
Sat 2:25 / 4:00 / 5:05 / 6:40 / 7:45 / 9:20 / 10:25 / 12:00
Sun & Hol 2:25 / 4:00 / 5:05 / 6:40 / 7:45 / 9:20

ON TWO SCREENS

Chadwick Boseman Harrison Ford

42

Mon - Thurs 9:15
Fri 9:15
Sat 9:15
Sun & Hol 9:15

ON TWO SCREENS

Charlie Sheen Ashley Tisdale

SCARY MOVIE

Mon - Thurs 5:25 / 7:30 / 9:35
Fri 5:25 / 7:30 / 9:35 / 11:40
Sat 3:20 / 5:25 / 7:30 / 9:35 / 11:40
Sun & Hol 3:20 / 5:25 / 7:30 / 9:35

ON TWO SCREENS

Dwayne Johnson Susan Sarandon

SNITCH

Mon - Thurs 4:25 / 6:55 / 9:25
Fri 4:25 / 6:55 / 9:25 / 11:55
Sat 2:00 / 4:25 / 6:55 / 9:25 / 11:55
Sun & Hol 2:00 / 4:25 / 6:55 / 9:25

ON TWO SCREENS

Nicolas Cage Emma Stone

THE CROODS

3D Version
With Spanish Subtitles **PG**

Mon - Thurs 4:45 / 7:00
Fri 4:45 / 7:00
Sat 2:30 / 4:45 / 7:00
Sun & Hol 2:30 / 4:45 / 7:00

STARTING THURSDAY MAY 2

IRON MAN 3

PG-13

Latest HIV vaccine doesn't work; U.S. study halted

LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The latest bad news in the hunt for an AIDS vaccine: The government halted a large U.S. study on Thursday, saying the experimental shots are not preventing HIV infection.

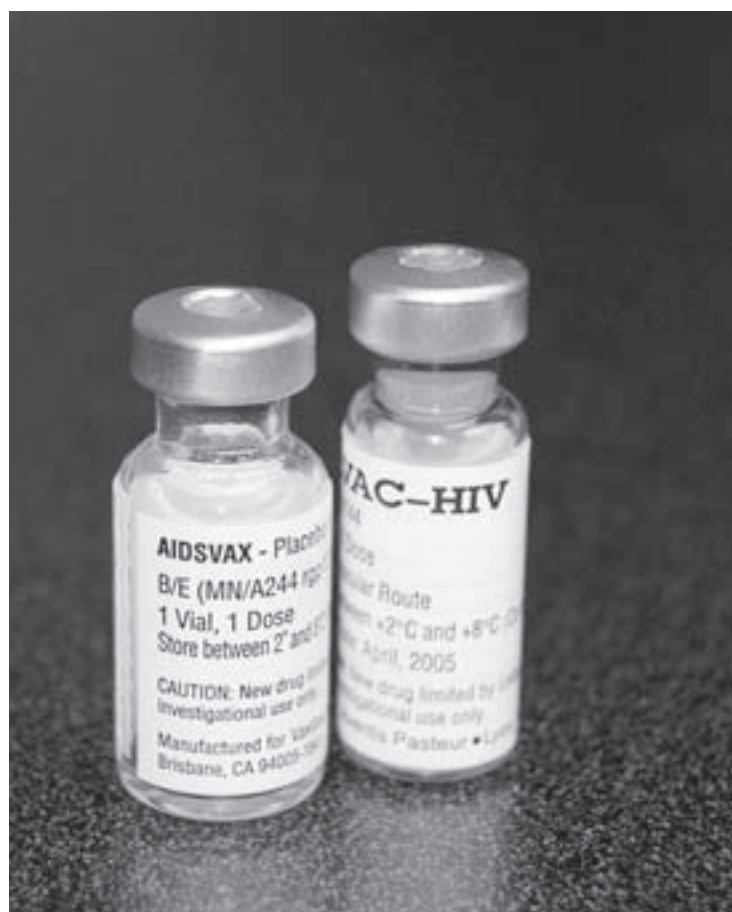
Nor did the shots reduce the amount of the AIDS virus in the blood when people who'd been vaccinated later became infected, the National Institutes of Health said.

"It's disappointing," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. But, "there was important information gained from this" study that will help determine what to try next.

The study had enrolled 2,504 volunteers, mostly gay men, in 19 cities since 2009. Half received dummy shots, and half received a two-part experimental vaccine developed by the NIH. All were provided free condoms and given extensive counseling about the risks for HIV.

It's a strategy known as "prime-boost." A DNA-based vaccine made with genetically engineered HIV material is given to prime the immune system to attack the AIDS virus. Then a different vaccine, encasing the same material inside a shell made of a disabled cold virus, acts as a booster shot to strengthen that response. Neither vaccine could cause HIV.

The idea: Train immune cells known as T cells to spot and attack the very earliest HIV-infected cells in someone's body. The hope was that the vaccine could either prevent HIV infection, or help those infected anyway to fight it. A safety review this week found that slightly more study participants who had received the vaccine later became infected with HIV. It's not clear why. But the difference wasn't statistically significant, meaning it may be due to chance. Overall, there were 41 HIV infections in the vaccinated group and 30 among placebo recipients. When



researchers examined only participants diagnosed after being in the study for at least 28 weeks — long enough for the shots to have done their job — there were 27 HIV infections among the vaccinated and 21 among the

placebo recipients.

The NIH said Thursday that it is stopping vaccinations in the study, known as HVTN 505, but that researchers will continue to study the volunteers' health.

Josh Robbins, 30, is among the participants who be-

came infected. He said he is glad he was in the study, because its close monitoring meant he was diagnosed and treated much sooner than most people — and he is feeling great — and because the findings help science.

"We've got to keep moving forward," Robbins said. The study "certainly can lead us down a new direction to hopefully find something that might work."

Multiple attempts at creating an AIDS vaccine have failed over the years. A 2009 study in Thailand is the only one ever to show a modest success, using a somewhat different prime-boost approach. Newer research suggests another approach — to try creating powerful antibodies that could work a step earlier than the T-cell attack, before HIV gets inside the first cell.

Both approaches need continued research funding, said Mitchell Warren of the international AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition.

"Clearly an AIDS vaccine remains critical," he said. □

Study: New bird flu jumped directly from chickens

LONDON (AP) — Chinese scientists have for the first time found strong evidence of how humans became infected with a new strain of bird flu: from chickens at a live market.

Chinese scientists compared swabs from birds at markets in eastern China to virus samples from four patients who caught the new H7N9 virus. The scientists found the virus from one patient was nearly identical to one found in a chicken.

The research was published online Thursday in the journal *Lancet*.

Finding definitive proof of how patients were infected is very difficult and experts have so far struggled to find much virus in birds. Despite taking nearly 48,000 samples from animals in live markets, Chinese officials found only 39 positive tests for H7N9. Experts had



Security guards clear out a stall belonging to the parents of a seven-year-old H7N9 bird flu patient as people sit outside the family's home in Gucheng village on the outskirts of Beijing.

(AP Photo)

suspected birds in live markets to be the source of infection but weren't sure if other animals or wild birds might also be responsible. Health officials have so far refrained from recommending any wide-scale slaughter of poultry to contain the disease,

one of the main tools used previously to combat another bird flu strain, H5N1. Unlike that strain, H7N9 doesn't appear to sicken chickens, giving experts fewer signs as to where it might be spreading.

Chinese authorities have shut down live poultry markets in many affected regions,

which seems to have slowed down the virus. Still, Taiwan reported its first case earlier this week.

So far, H7N9 has infected more than 100 people in China and killed more than 20. □

Google agrees to change search display in Europe

JUERGEN BAETZ

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Google has agreed to change how it displays search results in Europe — including a better labeling of its promoted content and displaying links to competitors — to appease concerns it might be abusing its dominant market position, the European Union's antitrust body said Thursday.

Google's search engine, which is the world's most influential gateway to online information and commerce, enjoys a near-monopoly in Europe. The EU Commission, which acts as the 27-nation bloc's antitrust authority, has since 2010 been investigating whether the company is unfairly stifling competition. It pointed out several areas of concern that Google is now trying to address through the proposed concessions.

Google has offered to more clearly label search results stemming from its own services such as Google News, Google Maps or its shopping and flight search functions. That would allow users to distinguish between natural search results and others promoted by Google. It also agreed to display some search results from its competitors and links to their services, the EU Commission said.

The Commission has often taken a harder line with U.S. tech companies than its American counterparts, the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department. Google, which is based in Mountain View, California, was able to settle a similar antitrust complaint on its search business with the FTC in January without making any major concessions on how it runs its search engine.

The EU Commission is now proposing a market test of the concessions for a month. That would give competitors the chance to say whether they deem



This April 12, 2012, photo shows a Google logo on a window at the company's headquarters in Mountain View, Calif.

Associated Press

them sufficient.

"The objective of this process is to try to see if we can achieve a settled outcome in this antitrust investigation," said Commission spokesman Antoine Lombani.

A group of 17 companies competing with Google — including tech giants and internet companies such as Microsoft, Nokia Expedia and TripAdvisor — vowed to carefully study the concessions proposed by Google.

"The most important remedy to Google's abuse of dominance is to require the search monopoly (...) to subject its own products and services to the same policy it uses to rank and display all other websites," said the group, collectively called FairSearch.

Once the Commission accepts the concessions — revised or not — they become legally binding for the company for the next five years. If the deal is accepted, Google would avoid a fine and a finding of wrongdoing.

If Google were then to break its commitments, the Commission could impose a fine of up to 10 percent of its annual worldwide revenue — that would be close to a whopping \$5 billion in Google's case.

The Commission said Google will "clearly separate promoted links from other web search results by clear graphical features"

and "display links to three rival specialized search services close to its own services, in a place that is clearly visible to users."

Google will also give all websites the option to keep their content from being used in Google's specialized search services, "while ensuring that any opt-out does not unduly affect the ranking of those web sites in Google's general web search results," it said.

In addition, the proposed remedies will give newspaper publishers greater control over what appears in Google's news aggregator, Google News. Google is also giving marketers greater ability to buy ads on rival networks — one of several concessions aimed at appeasing fears it is abusing its dominance of the online advertising market.

To normal users in Europe, the changes in the display of search results will only be visible once the Commission accepts the settlement, most likely later this year.

However, Google's algorithm — the unique mathematical formula that ranks its search results — will remain unchanged. That means the company retains the power to decide what search results are displayed most prominently.

The Commission's investigation was initially triggered by complaints from Google's rivals. □



Facebook: Audit finds privacy practices sufficient

In this March 25, 2013 file photo, Daniel Singer, 13, works at his computer in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Facebook says that an independent audit found its privacy practices sufficient during a six-month assessment period that followed a settlement with federal regulators.

Facebook Inc. said it submitted the findings to the Federal Trade Commission on Monday evening. The audit was a required part of the social networking company's settlement with the FTC last summer. The settlement resolved charges that Facebook exposed details about its users' lives without getting the required legal consent. Facebook provided a copy of its letter to the FTC, along with a redacted copy of the auditor's letter, to The Associated Press on Wednesday. The redacted portion contains trade secret information and does not alter the auditor's findings, the company said. The audit covered written policies as well as its data.

"We're encouraged by this confirmation that the controls set out in our privacy program are working as intended," said Erin Egan, Facebook's chief

privacy officer for policy," in an emailed statement. "This assessment has also helped us identify areas to work on as Facebook continues to evolve as a company, and improve upon the privacy protections we already have in place. We will keep working to meet the changing and evolving needs of our users and to put user privacy and security at the center of everything we do."

Facebook did not disclose the full, 79-page report or specific details on shortcomings in its privacy practices that were revealed by the audit. Spokeswoman Jodi Seth said Facebook declined to disclose such details "based on contractual obligations and the possibility of security and competitive vulnerabilities." The company has asked the FTC to keep the redacted information private, saying it would put it and its auditor at a competitive disadvantage and because it could reveal possible limitations of its privacy program.

The name of the accounting firm is also redacted but that information will be released when the FTC responds to the audit. □

Stocks edge higher on jobs data, healthy earnings

CHRISTINA REXRODE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The engines driving the stock market were more tepid than turbocharged Thursday, but they were enough to help stocks rise for a fifth straight day.

The three major U.S. stock indexes all closed higher as good news on the job market and healthy earnings from name-brand companies like Royal Caribbean and Harley-Davidson encouraged investors.

The Standard & Poor's 500 has risen every day since Friday, a record not matched since early March.

The forces driving the gains, however, were tenuous, market watchers said. Hiring remains sluggish, even with the drop in unemployment claims last week. The S&P's five-day winning streak is hardly a

blockbuster: on Wednesday it rose just .01 point.

And while companies are turning in profits that are

beating the estimates of financial analysts, many are

missing revenue forecasts. Some investors think the stock market's most recent gains have more to do with the belief that central banks around the world, including the Federal Reserve, will continue to keep interest rates low and buy bonds to encourage borrowing and spending.

"Some of the earnings were OK, but it's more just stimulus, stimulus, stimulus," said Scott Freeze, president of Street One Financial in Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania. "As long as the world wants to print (money) ... the fears of a global slowdown are going to be muted." Joe Heider, principal at Rehmann Group outside Cleveland, thought stocks were up mostly because investors can't think of anywhere else to put their money, given record-low interest rates.

"You can leave it in cash and make nothing on it," Heider said.

Heider said he thought the latest report on jobless claims was consistent with a "plodding" recovery: "Not booming, not exciting, but we just keep marching forward."

Weekly applications for unemployment benefits fell 16,000 to 339,000, the second-lowest level in more than five years, according to the Labor Department.

The good news for the job market comes after a series of setbacks. In March, employers added only 88,000 jobs, down from an average of 220,000 for the previous four months. The unemployment rate fell to 7.6 percent from 7.7 percent, but only because more people stopped looking for jobs.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose as much as 91 points before giving up most of that gain Thursday. Investors were underwhelmed by what turned out to be a mixed bag on earnings. The Dow closed up 24.50 points, or 0.2 percent, to 14,700.80.

The S&P 500 rose 6.37 points, or 0.4 percent, to 1,585.16. Nine of the S&P's 10 industry groups rose, led by telecommunications. □



A man examines the tag of a motorcycle at the Dillon Brothers Harley Davidson dealership in Omaha, Neb. Harley-Davidson Inc. reported healthy quarterly financial results before the market opened on Thursday, April 25, 2013.
(AP Photo/Nati Harnik)

Chastened banks cutting thousands of jobs

C. REXRODE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Banks aren't the big jobs machines they used to be.

One after another, major financial firms are trimming their payrolls. In first-quarter earnings announcements this month, Bank of America, Citigroup, JPMorgan Chase, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley revealed that they have slashed more than 31,000 jobs, or 3.5 percent of their combined workforce, in the past year. For three of those banks, it was the second straight year of cutbacks. And the pattern is being repeated at banks around the world.

Layoffs in the depths of the financial crisis were to be expected. But four years later, and at a time when many banks are reporting higher or even record earnings, the cuts are unsettling to an entire industry.

The losses are an unwelcome reminder of the meltdown and its lingering effects. A slow, halting recovery has kept loan demand in check. Low interest rates are crimping profits from lending. New regu-

lations have extinguished old sources of revenue, and compliance is expensive. The cuts also reflect advances in technology that have made bank tellers more expendable.

Steven Mann, chairman of the finance department at the University of South Carolina's Moore School of Business, says many of his students have given up on banking jobs.

"In 2005, 2006, 2007, I'd ask, 'Do you want to go work at a bank?' and the answer was always yes," he says. "Now the answer is no one. They want to be in the treasury department of General Electric."

The industry's rhythm now veers more toward cost cutting than freewheeling. Those higher earnings? They're not because business is gangbusters. They're because banks have been forced to make do with less.

Citigroup's new CEO Mike Corbat, hired to turn around a bank that has struggled since the financial crisis and beforehand, says that examining costs and improving efficiency should be "business as

usual," and "not just an annual event."

What makes the situation especially harsh is that there were signs in 2010 and 2011 that banks would start hiring more people. Banks added about 45,600 positions in the U.S. in 2010 and 2011 combined, according to data from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. In the previous two years, they shed more than three times that many jobs. Then last year, job growth was essentially flat. Some observers worry that the turnaround won't ever happen. The industry's total U.S. workforce of 2.1 million is 105,000 less than it was at its peak in 2007.

It's a far different mood from the pre-crisis years that were fueled by risky trading and complicated investments that eventually backfired. In 2004, 2005 and 2006, banks added more than 50,000 jobs per year. Now Citigroup is cutting back in lower-growth countries, like Greece and Spain. Germany's Commerzbank and others are laying off branch workers as customers gravitate toward online banking. Bar-

clays is exiting businesses with "reputational risks" after some of its bankers were caught manipulating global interest rates.

Even JPMorgan, generally considered one of the nation's strongest banks, is retrenching. It will cut a net of 17,000 positions, or 6.5 percent of its staff, over the next two years, mostly in the unit that deals with troubled mortgages.

Banks have always cut and added jobs to navigate the varying fortunes of the economy. So it's difficult to discern whether the industry is permanently shrinking, or if this is just a temporary downward move in a cycle that will turn around again. "It's just hard to know how things will shake out," says Phillip Swagel, a Treasury official in the Bush administration who now teaches economics at the University of Maryland.

To be sure, there are places where the banks are expanding. Wealth management is a hot area because it can provide a steady source of income, based mostly on fees, rather than the spectacular gains — and losses — of trading. □

Starbucks raises outlook but sales miss estimates

NEW YORK (AP) — Starbucks Corp. says its profit rose in its second fiscal quarter as the world's biggest coffee company saw sales increase in the U.S. and Asia. The Seattle-based company, which has more than 18,000 locations around the world, raised its outlook for the year. But total sales came in shy of Wall Street expectations and its shares fell in afterhours trading.

Starbucks is facing more competition from restaurant chains that have been expanding their coffee menus to include more lattes and frozen drinks. But the company has nevertheless managed to keep growing by evolving its drinks and food offerings. For example, it recently started rolling out Evolution bottled juices in stores and new baked goods from a San Francisco bakery chain are on the way.

It's also making a big push behind its loyalty program as a way to boost sales. During the quarter, global sales at cafes open at least 13 months rose 6 percent. That included a 7 percent increase in the U.S. and a 6 percent increase in the Americas overall. The number of average transactions and spending per visit both rose. In China and the Asia Pacific, where Starbucks is looking to grow, the figure rose 8 percent.

But it fell 2 percent in Europe, where Starbucks has struggled and has been working to turn around results. "It just continues to be a tough environment for us — and for everyone," said Troy Alstead, the company's chief financial officer. For the quarter, Starbucks earned \$390.4 million, or 51 cents per share. That's up from \$309.9 million, or 40 cents per share, a year ago. Not in-

cluding one-time items, it earned 48 cents per share, in line with analyst estimates.

Revenue rose 11 percent to \$3.56 billion. But that was shy of the \$3.58 billion Wall Street expected, according to FactSet.

Shares of Starbucks were down 3 percent.

The company says it now expect full-year earnings of \$2.12 to \$2.18, up from the previous forecast of \$2.06 to \$2.15 per share. □

Expedia posts 1Q loss; says revenue rose 24%

NEW YORK (AP) — Online travel agency Expedia Inc. on Thursday reported a larger loss in the first quarter as its stock-based compensation, legal reserve and depreciation costs surged compared to a year ago. But its adjusted income and revenue surpassed Wall Street's expectations. Expedia said Thursday it lost \$104.2 million, or 77 cents per share. A year ago it reported a loss of \$3.3 million, or 2 cents per share. The Bellevue, Wash., company said it earned 25 cents per share during the most-recent quarter if the one-time items are excluded. Revenue climbed 24 percent to \$1.01 billion, mostly on greater international sales. Expedia reported a 28-percent increase in ho-

tel night bookings and said airline ticket sales rose 9 percent.

FactSet says analysts expected adjusted net income of 23 cents per share and \$967.5 million in revenue.

The company said its revenue growth in Europe surged because of recent acquisitions. About a year ago, it bought Via Travel, the biggest travel management company in the Nordic countries.

In March, Expedia acquired a 61.6 percent stake in German hotel search site Trivago for about \$632 million in cash and stock. Shares of Expedia advanced \$1.53, or 2.4 percent, to \$66.50 in aftermarket trading following the release of the earnings report. □



Expedia analytics team workers Mike Brown, left, Saurin Pandya and Prashanti Tata chat in an alcove set up for employees in Bellevue, Wash. Expedia Inc. reported quarterly financial results after the market closes on Thursday, April 25, 2013.

(AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

Amazon reports lower 1Q earnings, higher revenue

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon.com Inc.'s net income declined in the first three months of the year even though revenue increased 22 percent, as the online retailer continued to spend heavily on order fulfillment and rights to digital content. Amazon, the world's largest online retailer and the seller of Kindle devices and services, said Thursday that

it earned \$82 million, or 18 cents per share, in the first quarter. That's down 37 percent from \$130 million, or 28 cents per share, in the same period a year earlier. But it's higher than the 7 cents expected by analysts polled by FactSet. Revenue rose 22 percent to \$16.07 billion, from \$13.19 billion. Analysts expected \$16.14 billion. Amazon's operating expenses rose 22 percent to \$15.9 billion, from \$13 billion.

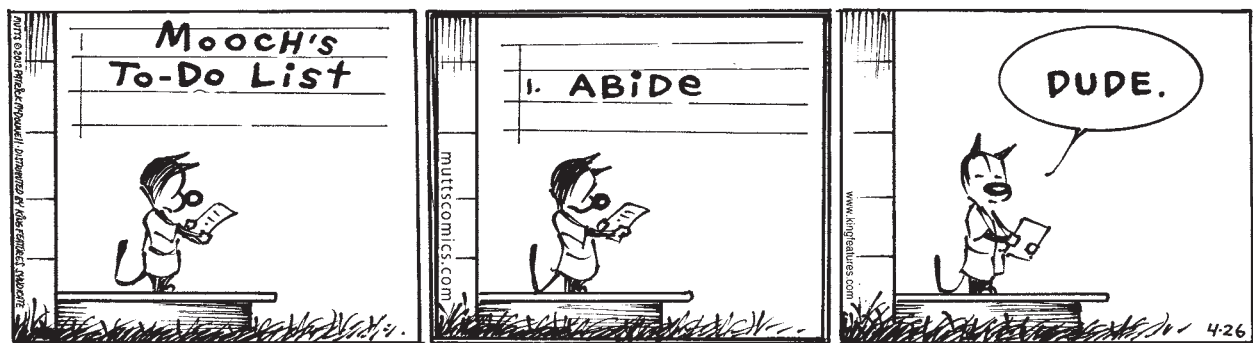
The company has been investing a lot of its income in enhancing its distribution network, its shopping website and its Kindle business as part of a long-term growth plan. Because of that, and deep discounts it offers customers, Amazon's profit margins have been thin. For the current quarter, Amazon expects revenue of \$14.5 billion to \$16.2 billion. Analysts had expected \$15.92 billion.

Shares fell \$14.70, or 5.4 percent, to \$260 after the results came out. The stock had gained \$5.92, or 2.2 percent, to \$274.70 during the regular session. Amazon is stretching well beyond online retailing. The Seattle-based company soon plans to debut original TV programming. Amazon is running introductory pilots for 14 TV shows on its website for anyone in the U.S., U.K. and Germany to watch. Viewers will get to

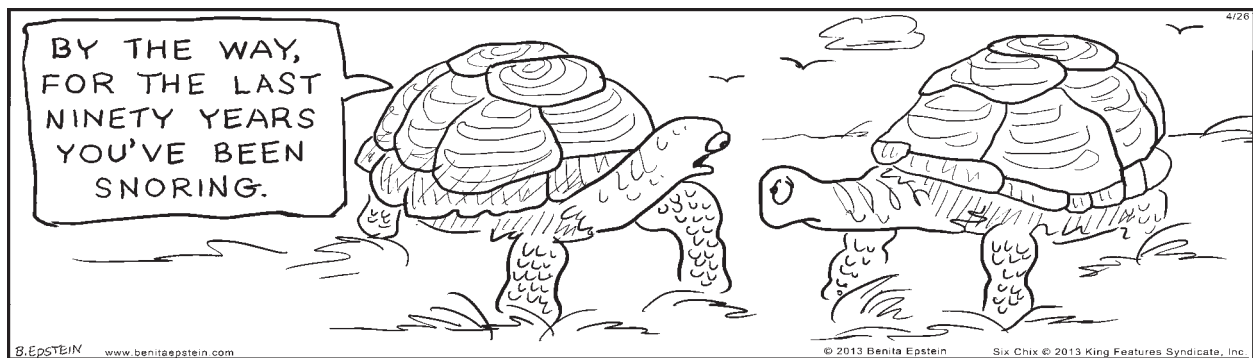
help decide which shows get additional episodes.

"The pilots are out in the open where everyone can have a say," Jeff Bezos, Amazon's founder and CEO, said in a statement. "I have my personal picks and so do members of the Amazon Studios team, but the exciting thing about our approach is that our opinions don't matter. Our customers will determine what goes into full-season production." □

Mutts



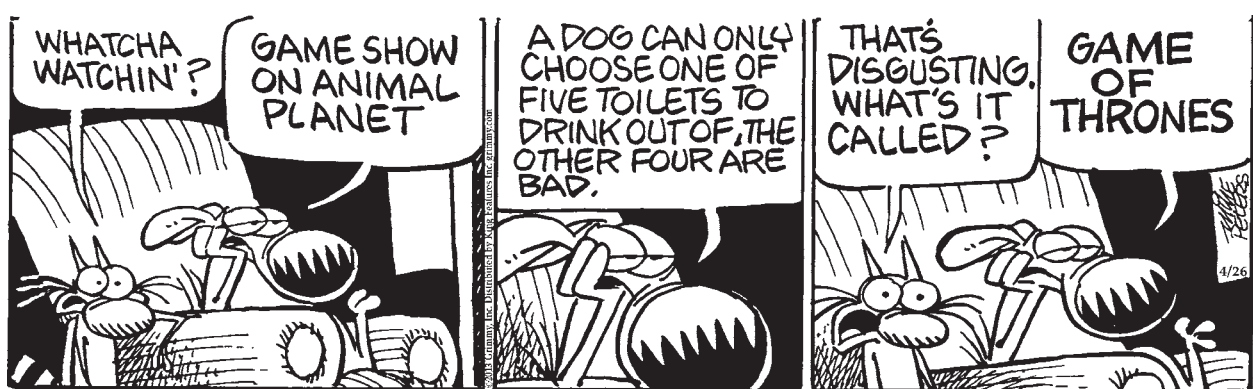
6 Chix



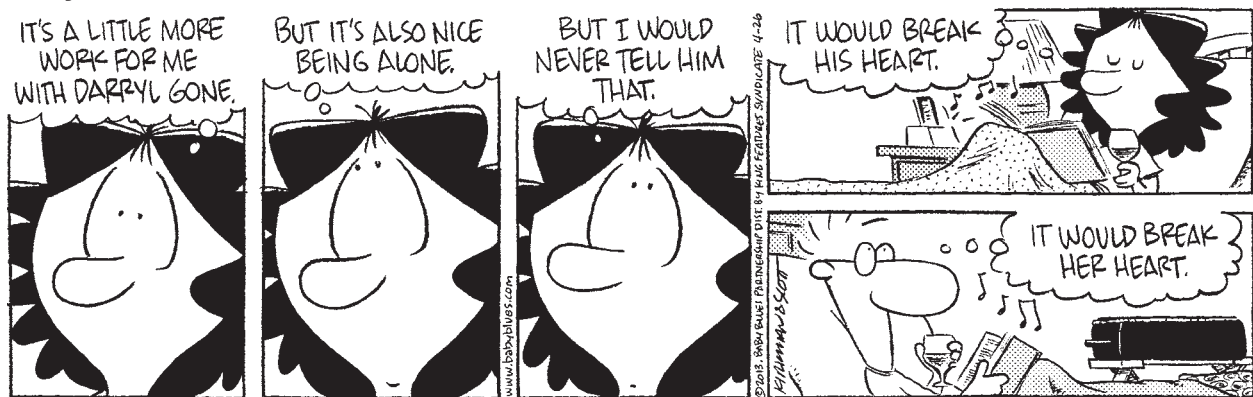
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

					3			
		8		1		7		
	5			4	9		2	
						1		8
	9	3				4	5	
5		2						
	8		6	9			1	
		1		5		3		
			7					

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/26

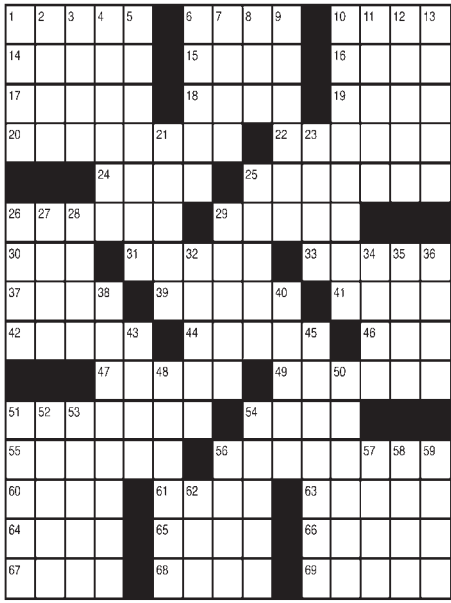
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	1	8	5	4	3	9	2	7
5	7	2	6	8	9	3	1	4
9	3	4	2	7	1	5	6	8
4	2	6	3	1	8	7	5	9
3	5	1	9	6	7	8	4	2
7	8	9	4	2	5	1	3	6
1	4	5	8	9	2	6	7	3
8	6	3	7	5	4	2	9	1
2	9	7	1	3	6	4	8	5

ACROSS

- 1 Box made of wooden slats
6 Keep __ on; watch closely
10 Fill completely
14 Traveler's stop
15 Border on
16 Sharp; clever
17 Worship
18 Game like lotto
19 "Say It __ So"
20 Corrupt; immoral
22 Fight against
24 Singles
25 Dangling part of a bell
26 Benefactor
29 White adhesive
30 "You __ what you eat"
31 Bumpkins
33 Build
37 Reminder of a past surgery
39 Sea duck with soft down
41 For __; on the market
42 Tear to bits
44 One to whom a check is written
46 Source of light and heat
47 Dromedary
49 Seasoned at the table
51 Frolicked
54 Main character in a story
55 Found a new purpose for
56 Changes one's mind
60 Drawing and painting
61 Pinnacle
63 Make amends
64 Refer to
65 __ up; form a row
66 Extend one's subscription
67 Door openers
68 __ up; arranges
69 Pines & palms



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/26/13

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

SCAR	RAPID	SHAM
OOZE	EBONY	LUBE
APEX	MARKETABLE	
PER	FIST	ONSET
	BIRTH	MAT
SCALES	KISSES	
ALIKE	ATILT	NOR
RAJA	GRIND	OGRE
IRA	SATED	TIERED
	KNOTTS	DONORS
	TOE	LINKS
IDAHO	FARE	SUM
DEVELOPING	MIRE	
LAIR	FARCE	ENGL
ENDS	TREES	AGED

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4/26/13

- 36 Take care of
38 Wall nooks
40 Adjust a clock
43 Be bold
45 Aviator Amelia
48 Awards for Olympians
50 Hang around
51 Illegal drug
52 Eagle's nest
53 Caulking sealant
54 Puts a spell on
56 Pay a landlord
57 Zero
58 Leg joint
59 Makes clothes
62 Bakery dessert

In social settings, monkeys see and monkeys do

PAM BELLUCK

© 2013 New York Times

If you're eating lunch in Pittsburgh or Dallas, you might grab a sandwich and a Snapple to go. But should you get transferred to Paris (quel dommage!), you'll probably eat like the French: multicourse sit-

The findings addressed a long-contentious question among animal experts: Is animal behavior determined only by genes and individual learning, or can animals, like humans, learn socially?

"Culture was thought to be something only hu-

man must know what's the best thing."

Other studies have found similar learning abilities in social animals. In the same issue of Science, researchers reported that by observing others, humpback whales learned to whack the water with their tail fins to attract prey.

Whereas previous research often relied on anecdotes, observations or animals in captivity, however, the monkey study documented social learning in wild animals.

"We long believed that cultural transmission was important," said Frans de Waal, a primatologist at Emory University who did not take part in the study, "but I never thought it would be at the scale where the results would be so strong."

The scientists set out pink and blue corn in adjacent Tupperware containers for four groups of wild monkeys in neighboring regions in a South African reserve. A study leader, Erica van de Waal, a researcher at University of St. Andrews in Scotland, said she wanted to use red and blue, shades monkeys are known to see because they are the colors of male Vervet genitalia; but South African grocery stores stocked mostly blue and pink food coloring because people use them for cakes celebrating girl and boy birthdays. After trying vinegar and chilies to make corn taste bitter, researchers settled on soaking corn in acid-tasting aloe leaves. Pink corn was "aloe treated" for two groups; blue for the other two. Soon, monkeys in each group consistently rejected the colored corn soaked in aloe leaves. □



An adult male and several juvenile Vervet monkeys feeding on pink-dyed corn, in an undated handout photo. A new study on groups of vervet monkeys suggests that social learning may have a greater influence on behavior development than previously thought.

(Erica van de Waal via The New York Times)

down lunches plus a glass of wine.

It turns out, though, that people aren't the only ones who make monkey-see-monkey-do cultural shifts. Monkeys, and apparently several other species, do too.

In a clever, groundbreaking study published Thursday in the journal Science, researchers showed that when Vervet monkeys roam, they act in when-in-Rome fashion.

Wild Vervet monkeys, trained to eat only pink-dyed or blue-dyed corn and shun the other color, quickly began eating the disliked-color corn when they moved from a pink-preferred setting to a blue-is-best place, and vice versa.

The switch occurred even though both corn colors were equally accessible, side-by-side in open containers. Scientists said the monkeys relinquished their color convictions because they saw the locals eating the hated hue.

mans had," said Carel van Schaik, an evolutionary anthropologist at the University of Zurich who was not involved in the study. "But if you define culture as socially transmitted knowledge, skills and information, it turns out we see some of that in animals. Now this experiment comes along and I must say it really blew me away."

He added: "Imagine you've just learned to eat pink corn and for a while blue corn was really bad, but then you move to an area where it's the opposite and basically you wipe your slate clean. You think, 'Oh, these locals, they

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It really is monkey-see, monkey-do, research shows

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — You don't have to be a teenager to want to fit in at the school lunchroom. Some wild animals seem to follow similar monkey-see, monkey-do behavior to follow the crowd and find the best eats, new research finds.

South African monkeys switched foods purely because of peer pressure and humpback whales off the coast of New England copied a new way to round up a fish meal, according to two studies in Thursday's journal *Science*. "We're not as unique as we would like to think," said monkey study lead author Erica van de Waal, of the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. "We can find many of the roots of our behaviors in animals."

For her study, 109 vervet monkeys living in groups in the wild were given a choice of food tinted pink or blue by the researchers. One color for each group was tainted with aloe to give it a harmless yucky flavor. After a few meals, the food was no longer tainted, but the monkeys still wouldn't eat the color they figured was bad.

But that changed when some of them tried to fit in with a new group of monkeys. Blue-food eaters instantly switch when they moved to an area full of pink-food eaters, even though they shunned pink food before. Pink eaters also changed when they moved to a blue-food area.

The social pressure may be like "teenagers with a

desperate need to be just like the other guys," said co-author Andrew Whiten, also of St. Andrews. Or it could be that the monkeys

peer pressure in action. Of the 10 migrating males, nine instantly ate what everyone else ate. The only hold out was an al-

havior in 1980. Until then, whales usually fed by blowing bubbles underwater to corral small fish, which don't seem to like to swim

said. This new trick coincided with a dramatic drop in the number of herring, which the whales like to eat. Allen said the tech-



This photo taken in 2012, provided by the Centre for Social Learning and Cognitive Evolution Scottish Primate Research Group and the journal *Science* shows monkeys from Noha group feeding on pink-dyed corn in South Africa. Associated Press

are learning to adapt to local custom — think restaurant reviews or the old saying "when in Rome, do as the Romans do," he said.

The researchers were surprised by the finding: They were only aiming to find out if mothers taught their young the same color food preference they learned, Whiten said. The next generation automatically ate the same as their mother, showing how food choice is learned. Just by sheer luck, some blue-eating monkeys went to the pink-eating tribes and some pink-eating males went to blue tribes. And that's

when the researchers saw

pha male, who stuck to his previous diet. Van de Waal said it could be the eat-what-locals-eat idea, but she favors the social conformity, peer pressure concept. She figures the other males were trying to get in good with females, while the dominant male acted as "if he's already in charge, why does he need to do like the others."

In the 27-year whale study, scientists began tracking an unusual feeding be-

through bubbles. Then the whales would lunge upwards and feast.

But in 1980, researchers saw one whale first smack the water loudly with its tail — a maneuver called lob-tail — making a big noise and giant splash before blowing bubbles, said researcher Jenny Allen, who used to be at St. Andrews. The number of whales doing that maneuver has climbed steadily, and is now at 37 percent, she

nique — which might bring fish closer to the surface — seemed to be passed down through the generations. This definitely appears to be something that is learned by copying more successful whales, she said. Lori Marino of Emory University, who wasn't part of either study, praised the works, saying it fits with other studies showing how many animals learn socially and how strong conformity is. □

CERN scientists find asymmetry in particle decay

GENEVA (AP) — Scientists at the world's biggest atom smasher have found further reasons for the apparent lack of antimatter in the universe.

A team working with data from CERN's Large Hadron Collider says it has discovered a particle that decays unevenly into matter and antimatter.

The lab near Geneva said Wednesday that the particle called 'B0s' is the fourth sub-atomic particle known to prefer matter over antimatter. Theory posits that the Big Bang produced equal amounts of each, and scientists have puzzled over why matter now dominates.

The discovery of the first

matter-antimatter asymmetry earned two scientists at Brookhaven Laboratory in New York a Nobel Prize in 1980.

Team spokesman Pierluigi Campana said the find was predicted by the standard model of physics but "some interesting discrepancies demand more detailed studies." □

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In this publicity image released by The Weinstein Company, Courteney Cox is shown in a scene from the horror film "Scream 4."

Associated Press

MTV piping up for 'Scream' series to air in 2014

NEW YORK (AP) — MTV is getting ready to blast viewers with a brand-new "Scream."

The network says it will produce a pilot for a TV-series adaptation of the wildly popular slasher films. The series would reinvent the horror-comedy franchise that began with the original release in 1996 and spawned three sequels, the most recent in 2011.

MTV said the films' original director, Wes Craven, is in discussions to direct the

one-hour pilot.

The "Scream" series is planned to debut in summer 2014.

The announcement was made Thursday at MTV's presentation of its upcoming schedule to advertisers in New York.

MTV also said "Snooki & JWOWW" has been renewed for a third season. The reality show stars "Jersey Shore" pals Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi and Jenni "JWOWW" Farley. □



This undated publicity photo provided by Google Inc. shows, from left, Ryan Higa, Rainn Wilson and Grace Helbig shooting a video for YouTube's planned Comedy Week.

Associated Press

In a first, YouTube to showcase a week of comedy

JAKE COYLE

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For a week in May, YouTube will turn into the biggest open mic on the planet.

On Thursday, the Google Inc.-owned site will announce the YouTube Comedy Week, a seven-day cyber extravaganza designed to showcase some of the best comedy across its expansive video platform. From May 19-25, YouTube will be overrun

with punch lines, sketches, stand-up routines and — hopefully — a lot of laughs. It's the largest-scale attempt yet by YouTube to program its billions of hours of video and lead viewers to its growing channels of original programming. The video site is planning more event weeks around various themes to be held later this year and beyond.

"This has never been done before on YouTube," Danielle Tiedt, YouTube's vice president of marketing, said in an interview Wednesday ahead of the announcement. "I'm sure we'll learn a lot."

Comedy Week will kick off with a global live stream from Los Angeles' Culver Studios. Throughout the week, new episodes will debut from some of YouTube's most popular channels, comedians will perform and comics will curate lists of their favorite videos.

Among those participating are Sarah Silverman, Rainn Wilson, Michael Cera, Vince Vaughn and Seth Rogen. There will be new videos from Andy Samberg's Lonely Island troupe. Popular comedy destinations with channels on YouTube like The Onion, Nerdlist, College Humor and Funny or Die will join in. And YouTube hopes its less famous users will also get in on the act. The event is

just the start of a new approach by YouTube to congregate its disparate stars — from Hollywood professionals to Internet upstarts — and to present a unified viewing experience for users. YouTube hopes the theme weeks will spotlight the original programming the site has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in to grow its platform as a kind of next-generation TV. "We're hoping to do this in a pretty regular rhythm," said Tiedt. "You'll see several of these coming from us, for sure, as we highlight really big areas that we think are amazing areas of strength for YouTube."

The undertaking is months in the works. To executive-produce the weeklong event, YouTube brought in former "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" producer Daniel Kellison, whose production company, HaChaCha, recently launched two comedy YouTube channels: Jash and the Video Podcast Network. The kickoff live stream will be directed and produced by Joel Gallen, a veteran of the MTV Movie Awards. Kellison says a staff of 40 has been assembled to help in what he calls the "tremendously daunting" task of organizing a sizable portion of the sprawling YouTube realm. "It's a massive undertaking," he says. □

"Senna" director to make Amy Winehouse documentary

LONDON (AP) — The director of award-winning film "Senna" is making a documentary about the late soul singer Amy Winehouse.

Focus Features International says the movie will feature unseen archive footage to tell the story of the art and life of the musician, who died at age 27 in London in 2011 from accidental alcohol poisoning.

The Winehouse family said in a statement Thursday that it had been approached with many documentary proposals, but "Senna" director Asif Kapadia and producer James Gay-Rees presented a vision that would "look at Amy's story sensi-



In this Feb. 16, 2007 file photo, British singer Amy Winehouse poses for photographs after being interviewed by The Associated Press at a studio in north London.

Associated Press

tively, honestly and without sensationalizing her."

"Senna," the acclaimed 2010 film, focused on the

life of Brazilian F1 driver Ayrton Senna. The champion racer was killed in an accident in 1994. □

To '3' or not to '3': Hollywood's franchise fever

DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hollywood is banking on the future this summer — and not just a future where Capt. Kirk orders warp speed or Tony Stark builds a better Iron Man outfit.

Though some film franchises seem to live on forever, most come with a shelf life, leaving studios always hunting for new ones.

The new stuff this summer could be a sign of what you'll be seeing for years to come if movies such as Brad Pitt's zombie fest "World War Z," Guillermo del Toro's robots-vs.-sea-monsters tale "Pacific Rim" and Johnny Depp's buddy Western "The Lone Ranger" connect with audiences. There's also that orphan from Krypton in the latest Superman revival, "Man of Steel," who seems ripe for a new franchise in this age of superhero blockbusters. "Introducing a new audience to a new idea about Superman is great and fertile ground, because there is so much to be explored," said Amy Adams, who plays Lois Lane opposite Henry Cavill as Superman in director Zack Snyder's "Man of Steel." "There's such a rich comic-book history and so many ideas that have not been touched on over the years."

"Man of Steel" distributor Warner Bros. has had tremendous franchise success with "Harry Potter," "The Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit," "The Dark Knight" and "The Hangover," whose finale arrives this May.

The studio tried reviving the Krypton kid with "Superman Returns" in 2006. The movie's nearly \$400 million worldwide box-office receipts were OK, but in an era of billion-dollar blockbusters, it didn't warrant more of the same with that cast and crew.

As Sony Pictures did with last summer's "The Amazing Spider-Man," a fresh beginning for that superhero after three smash films, Warner started over on Superman, with no guarantee "Man of Steel" will do



This publicity photo released by Columbia TriStar Marketing Group, shows Jodie Foster as Secretary Delacourt in the CCB HQ Briefing Room being demoted in a scene from the film, "Elysium."
Associated Press

franchise-worthy business. Superman at least has an audience and track record. Hollywood's bigger risks this summer are costly action spectacles with little or no big-screen history.

Warner's "Pacific Rim" has a visionary creator in filmmaker del Toro ("Pan's Labyrinth," "Hellboy"), but he has yet to deliver a monster hit. "World War Z" has Pitt and is inspired by the best-seller about a global zombie outbreak, but Paramount had to delay it from last year for a month of reshoots that included a new ending. Clayton Moore's "The Lone Ranger" has lived on for half a century in TV reruns, and the new film reunites the crew behind "Pirates of the Caribbean": Depp, Disney, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer.

But the Wild West generally has been on the outs for decades, while fans have to wonder if Depp's Tonto, opposite Armie Hammer's masked Lone Ranger, is just his latest exercise in costumed weirdness. Audiences bought Depp's Jack Sparrow, Willy Wonka and Mat Hatter; they didn't buy his bizarre vampire in last summer's dud "Dark Shadows."

"This has been a big, expensive Western, and if it doesn't do well, it's probably going to be one of the nails in the coffin of big, expensive Westerns," said Hammer, best known for a dual role as the Winklevoss twins in "The Social Network." Yet Depp, Verbinski

and Bruckheimer are "like a franchise factory. They know what sells popcorn. They know how to put asses in the seats."

The thing that's always lacking with new ideas, no matter how big the stars, is audience goodwill for what came before. Robert Downey Jr. was a huge question mark with 2008's "Iron Man." Now, next week's "Iron Man 3" is almost a guaranteed good time after what he's delivered before.

J.J. Abrams' take on "Star Trek" was a gamble in 2009. His sequel, "Star Trek Into Darkness," is hotly awaited after the first one took off. "Starting something new, you're taking a huge risk," said "World War Z" director Marc Forster. "When you have a built-in audience, you can take bigger risks knowing it worked before. That's not a guarantee it's going to work again, but doing something more original I find more exciting and interesting."

Audiences weren't excited by most of the new worlds they saw last summer. The 2012 record box-office year faltered during its busy season, when franchises such as "The Avengers" and "The Dark Knight Rises" soared but newcomers such as "Battleship" and "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter" flopped.

This summer's newbies have promise — on paper, at least. Among them: Will Smith's sci-fi adventure "After Earth"; Channing Tatum and Jamie Foxx's terrorist tale "White House Down";

Jeff Bridges and Ryan Reynolds' back-from-the-dead cop story "R.I.P.D."; and Matt Damon's futuristic thriller "Elysium."

"Elysium" writer-director Neill Blomkamp, who scored a summer 2009 hit with "District 9," said he's not set against the franchise business but that he prefers developing original ideas. "From my perspective, the only reason that those kinds of decisions get made is really just a fiscal reason. How do we as a publicly held company get money this year? Well, let's make films we know are going to generate profits, because audiences like them and we can make

erich said. "There are some crazy people out there like me who try to do original movies. There are some terrific sequels, but most of the time, it's more of the same." Among the summer sequels and prequels ("The Wolverine," "Fast & Furious 6," "Grown Ups 2," "Monsters University," "Despicable Me 2" and "The Smurfs 2") are newcomers that include the Vince Vaughn-Owen Wilson comedy "The Internship," the Seth Rogen-James Franco apocalypse spoof "This Is the End," and the cartoon tales "Epic," "Turbo" and "Planes."

Who knows which ones will connect with crowds and



An undated publicity photo released by Disney/Bruckheimer Films, shows actors, Johnny Depp, left, as Tonto, a spirit warrior on a personal quest, who joins forces in a fight for justice with Armie Hammer, as John Reid, a lawman who has become a masked avenger in the film, 'The Lone Ranger.'
Associated Press

sequels," Blomkamp said. "That's not always the best place to start off if you want to make something newer or a little different. I want to see new stuff. I want to make new stuff."

"White House Down" director Roland Emmerich ("The Day After Tomorrow," "2012") has never been big on franchises, either, though he's developing ideas for follow-ups to his 1996 blockbuster "Independence Day."

"Working in this town for 22 years, I can see how the whole business is more and more determined by franchises. I know why. That kind of marketing and just making the films is so expensive, what you're buying yourself is already a known name that also already has fans," Emm-

return with a "2" or a "3" after their titles years down the road?

Filmmaker Baz Luhrmann at least can make a pledge about his summer offering. "I can pretty much tell you there's not going to be a 'Great Gatsby 2,'" Luhrmann said of his adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Carey Mulligan and Tobey Maguire.

"There are a lot of '3s' out there. That doesn't mean to say 'Iron Man 3' can't be great. It can be fantastic, but it's the third one. Whereas, there are a few first-timers out there, and that makes for a nice smorgasbord. We all look forward to a good summer franchise picture, but there better be a few births out there, too." □

Lost In Space



MAUREEN DOWD
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When James Gleick was my editor on the City Desk of The Times, he would often stare into space. This was no mere daydreaming. Every time he stared, a clever idea bloomed. After leaving The Times, he founded one of the first Internet service providers. He made chaos theory so celebrated it inspired Tom Stoppard's "Arcadia." He wrote science and technology books acclaimed for making the theoretical sexy, including "The Information," a history from cuneiforms to coding about the thing we want most and have the most of, the thing that defines us, and the thing that brings pleasure and predicament in equal measure.

Everybody is continuously connected to everybody else on Twitter, on Facebook, on Instagram, on Reddit, emailing, texting, faster and faster, with the flood of information jeopardizing meaning. Everybody's talking at once in a hypnotic, hyper din: the cocktail party from hell.

Jim is at work now on a book about the history of time travel, though he doesn't believe in it. (Take that, H.G. Wells and Doctor Who.)

I was taken with a piece he wrote this week for New York magazine about how the Boston Marathon bombings exposed a new phase in our experience of what David Foster Wallace called Total Noise: "the tsunami of available fact, context, and perspective." The unfolding terror, Jim wrote, "found the ecosystem of information in a strange and unstable state: Twitter on the rise, cable TV in disarray, Internet vigilantes bleeding into the FBI's staggeringly complex (and triumphant) crash program of forensic video analysis. If there ever was a dividing line between cyberspace and what we used to call 'the real world,' it vanished last week." Crowdsourcing quickly turned into witchhunting, he noted, and bits of intelligence surfaced amid "new forms of banality."

Jim asserted that embarrassing instances of jumping the gun on arrest bulletins at CNN and Fox News, and airwaves filled with hollow, incessant chatter and pseudoinformation, showed that "continuous real-time broadcast news is a failed experiment."

Roger Ailes may not be quaking in his loafers. But has the long-

ingrained automatic impulse to turn on the TV when news happens run its course?

I asked Jim to elaborate over coffee.

"The TV audience used to be isolated and passive," he said. "Now everybody is tweeting and texting to everybody else, and sometimes the viewers know more than the hapless microphone-wielding faces on TV."

"During the drama of the Boston manhunt and car chase, it never occurred to me to turn on the TV. The screen I needed was on my iPhone, where I followed the tweets of newspaper reporters running through the streets of Boston and Cambridge residents listening to gunfire in real-time. The Internet is messy, pointillist, noisy, often wrong. But if you had a visceral need for instantaneity, TV couldn't compete."

"Reporters doing TV news in real-time are an oxymoron: You can't gather news and present it at the same time. Part of newsgathering is the gathering part."

"People on Twitter were crowing about how superior Twitter is to old media. What they meant was, 'See, we're faster than TV.' And I'm there. But I'm also still an old-media guy, because the information that matters sometimes comes the next day or the next month, when there is time to digest and interpret. The best reporting in Boston last week was not in cyberspace. It was in the two great daily newspapers that were on the scene, The Boston Globe and The Times."

"The battle lines are being drawn between the crowds and the experts. The crowds are fast and can be smart, but sometimes they're horribly wrong, like the Internet vigilantes on Reddit who thought they could do better than the FBI in looking at photographs and exposing the guilty. But crowdsourcing was also part of the newsgathering. In a very real way, we had eyes and ears everywhere."

I asked him about the episode on Tuesday, when Syrian hackers took over The Associated Press' Twitter account and falsely reported that there had been two explosions at the White House and that the president was injured – a hoax that sent the Dow into a tailspin for three minutes and wiped out \$136 billion from the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index.

"There's no perfect trust in cyberspace," Jim said. "There are not only millions of voices, but millions of masks. You don't know who's who. There was a real Twitter account for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, but, instantly, there was a fake Twitter account for him, too."

"We have all these new channels and tools to understand the world as it happens, but there's no reliable algorithm for sorting through the morass. It used to be to read the morning paper on the way to work and read the evening paper on the way home. □



Goodbye To All That



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2013 New York Times

On April 13, Prime Minister Salam Fayyad of the Palestinian Authority resigned. It was an easy development to miss, but not one to be ignored. It was very bad news, because Salam Fayyad was the "Arab Spring" before there was an Arab Spring. That is, he was what the Arab Spring was supposed to lead to: a new generation of decent Arab leaders whose primary focus would be the human development of their own people, not the enrichment of their family, tribe, sect or party. That Fayyad's brand of noncorrupt, institution-focused leadership was not sufficiently supported by other Palestinian leaders, the Arab states, Israel and America is really depressing. It does not bode well for the revolutions in Egypt, Syria or Tunisia – none of which has a Fayyad-quality leader at the helm.

Who is Salam Fayyad? A former economist at the International Monetary Fund, he first came to prominence when he was named finance minister of the Palestinian Authority in 2002, after donors got fed up seeing their contributions diverted for corruption. Shortly after he became prime minister in 2007, I coined the term "Fayyadism" – the all-too-rare notion that an Arab leader's legitimacy should be based not on slogans or resistance to Israel and the West or on personality cults or security services, but on delivering decent, transparent, accountable governance. Fayyad "dried up all slush accounts and went against Yasser Ara-

fat's orders by insisting on paying all security officials by direct bank account (rather than with cash given to their commanders based on a questionable list of personnel)," wrote Daoud Kuttub, a prominent Palestinian journalist, in The Jewish Daily Forward. "Fayyad also became the first Arab government official to publish his government's entire budget online, ushering a new transparency not seen in the entire Arab region." Fayyad also played the leading role in rebuilding the Palestinian security services in the West Bank, which even the Israeli military grew to respect, and in trying to build Palestinian institutions, on the argument that the more Palestinians built their institutions – finance, police, social services – the more Israel's denial of them of a state will be unsustainable. "Fayyad's embrace of economic transparency, which included U.S.-led audits, was instrumental in attracting increased international aid," noted David Makovsky, director of the project on the Middle East peace process at The Washington Institute. "Despite a deep worldwide recession, the IMF reported 9 percent growth for the West Bank between 2008 and 2010. ... As late as the second half of 2011, public support for Fayyad's government was at 53 percent, 19 points ahead of the Hamas government in Gaza." Hamas hated Fayyad, and many Palestinian Authority officials were jealous of him, but success protected him until 2011. President Mahmoud Abbas, frustrated by the right-wing Israeli government's refusal to strike a land-for-peace deal, decided to seek recognition of Palestinian statehood by the United Nations. The United States retaliated by cutting off aid, and Israel did so by withholding Palestinian tax receipts. I thought it foolish for Abbas to go to the U.N., but I thought it irresponsible for America's Congress to cut off aid to the Palestinians for doing so – when we've never retaliated for the even more obstructionist

building of settlements by Israel. The loss of hundreds of millions of dollars in aid tanked the Palestinian economy. Public-sector workers went unpaid, and Fayyad had to impose austerity. Abbas and some of the old guard in his Fatah party, who never liked Fayyadism, "used Fayyad as a scapegoat for Palestinian economic troubles, in part out of resentment at his efforts to constrain patronage and corruption," noted Makovsky. "Blaming Fayyad for the latest downturn is especially audacious," he added. After all, last fall, Fayyad "broke his hand in a meeting with Fatah members as he banged it on the table, vehemently arguing that it was irresponsible to go to the U.N. unless there were sufficient reserves to cover an aid slowdown." Fayyad finally got fed up and quit.

My four takeaways:

1. For Palestinians, particularly Abbas and Fatah, who so easily turned their most effective executive into a scapegoat, if there is no place for a Salam Fayyad-type in your leadership, an independent state will forever elude you.
2. Hamas and the Israeli settlers are both really happy today. Fayyad's aim to build a decent Palestinian state in the West Bank, at peace with Israel, was a huge threat to both of them. They both prefer permanent struggle so they both can claim there is no one to talk to on the other side and, therefore, they never have to change policies.
3. Thanks, American Congress and Israeli government. Your mindless, repeated cutoffs of cash to Fayyad's government helped undermine the best Palestinian peace partner Israel and the U.S. ever had. Nice job.
4. "There is nothing inevitable about a liberal order emerging from any of these Arab awakenings," argues the pollster Craig Charney. Indeed, to produce that outcome takes someone like a Fayyad with the consistent help of external parties as well as a loyal base at home ready to see it through. □

A riotous ramble is reborn in New Jersey's suburbia

WILLIAM GRIMES

© 2013 New York Times

SHORT HILLS, N.J. — There was a time when the suburbs of northern New Jersey offered boundless acres of Arcadian repose. Well-to-do Manhattanites found solace and tranquility in its swelling hills and unspoiled fields. When Stewart Hartsorn, a fortune in hand from the sales of spring-roller window shades, bought land in Millburn Township in the 1870s, he envisioned “a harmonious community for people who appreciated nature.”

The nature lovers came to the town known as Short Hills. Some of them laid out grand estates, ranking, in size and ambition, somewhere between Gatsby's and Hearst's. Few remain, but one, Greenwood Gardens, has been lifted from decades of decay and decrepitude to live a second life as a public park and cultural center. It opens on Sunday.

In one fell swoop, the tightly packed suburban mosaic of northern New Jersey gets a natural windfall. Greenwood Gardens sprawls over 28 acres that run right up against the extensive South Mountain Reservation, preserving the sense of total isolation from the human herd.

Within this magic perimeter, a stolid brick Colonial revival manor house sits on a rise. From its back door, across a rectangular lawn and flagstone terrace flanked by pergolas, an Italianate garden descends, level by level, formal and geometric at first, but wayward as it progresses toward the horizon. A grass walkway running straight as a die carries the eye forward across what once was a croquet lawn, and horizontal walks extend left and right like the arms of a cross. Follow the straight line, though, and topography takes over. The paths bend and twist. Oddities pop up, like the large limestone chess pieces that sit randomly along the walls and crowd around the two-story teahouse. They are gro-

tesque. The king looks like Samuel Johnson afflicted by gout. The queen seems dyspeptic.

As you pass the teahouse, the chess theme breaks down, and two Chinese dragons guard the road. There is a strange sundial with multiple faces (for international time zones?) and a corkscrew base.

Another level down the hill, past a series of descending platforms that once cascaded water into a pool, the garden becomes a farm. Sebastopol geese move in a line, casting a suspicious eye on human interlopers. Three friendly goats hoping for a hand-out of lettuce leaves wander over to the fence that pens them in, while a flock of chickens hunt and peck.

On the first day I visited the gardens, an obese groundhog darted across the grass path with impressive speed. Two seconds later, a hare followed in his footsteps, paused to test the air with a quivering nostril, then hotfooted it up the road.

There is a lot to take in, in other words, even without the flowers, shrubs, trees and ferns, gradually coming into their own after a chilly spring. Louis Bauer, a horticulturist recruited for the project from Wave Hill in New York, has drastically renovated and updated the gardens over the last decade.

Conceptually, it was a tricky assignment because of the estate's complicated visual history.

The original house, built by the prominent Newark brewer Christian Feigenspan, burned down in 1912. Joseph P. Day, a wealthy real estate auctioneer who had purchased the property in 1906, replaced it with a grand, rambling house in the arts and crafts

style. It was built by the Guastavino Fireproof Construction Co., famous for the vaulted tile ceilings in Grand Central Terminal.

In the 1920s the gardens evolved, incorporating the same arts and crafts elements that defined the house, notably the extensive use of glazed tile and ceramic ornament, like the shells, leaves and buds in the grotto to one side of the retaining wall at the end of the back lawn.

Time brought decay. New owners—Peter P. Blanchard Jr., a Manhattan lawyer and businessman, and his wife, Adelaide Childs Frick, a pediatrician and the

many evergreens, and that's exactly what the 1950 style tended to eliminate.

“Now we've come full circle. We like to be reminded of the changing seasons. We accept things that look wonderful for a short time. Fortunately, we have the space here to accommodate this.”

Bauer began by clearing and cutting. New planting opportunities arose as the stodgy old hedges were carried away. The rose garden was replaced by a cottage-style garden of perennials, annuals and shrubs arranged in beds.

“What would give the gar-

nonprofit organization to own, restore and manage the property under the guidance of the Garden Conservancy. Greenwood is one of 16 garden preservation projects in the United States overseen by the conservancy.

If Phase 2 of the project is inevitable, romantically inclined visitors might hope that it takes a while. The semicircular pool at the head of the great allée is built for water, but the present arrangement pleases the eye: a small prairie of grasses punctuated by perky yellow primula and drooping, lamplike white guinea hen flowers, with a



A magnolia tree near the carriage house at Greenwood Gardens in Short Hills, N.J., April 19, 2013. Greenwood Gardens, a 28-acre park with plantings, terraces, walkways, statuary, Arts and Crafts follies and a Colonial Revival manor house, reopens to the public on April 28 after a long restoration.

(Suzanne DeChillo/The New York Times)

granddaughter of Henry Clay Frick — tore down the Day house and, around 1950, built the current brick one. The old garden plan gave way to a more modern style, which in turn came to seem old-fashioned.

“When the Blanchards came as newlyweds, what they planted was conservative,” said Bauer, the park's director of horticulture. “It reflected the taste of the time, with boxwoods, hemlock hedges, pines and spruces. The old garden had an exuberant amount of color, texture and change, not very

den away as modern, to a trained eye, is that we've intermingled masses of plants that are interesting for their foliage, that don't depend primarily on flowers for their effect,” Bauer said. “You can paint an attractive picture for much longer that way. It allows the luxury of integrating peonies or bulbs that show for a short time because we have this sturdy background.”

Greenwood's grand opening is the end of the first phase of its reconstruction, which began after Peter P. Blanchard III and his wife, Sofia, created a

row of graceful green glass bowls.

It strikes the note of genteel decay that suffuses the place. Moss covers the stone railings along the paths, fills in cracks and crevices with green velvet and tops the chess pieces with closefitting toupees. The stone carries on, as it has for decades, moldering and weathering. The ceramic gargoyles that once spewed water in fountains and cascades grimace, as though racked by thirst.

Thomas Gray, come back. Wander the paths of Greenwood at dusk and write one more elegy. □